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BIGGER AND BETTER
VORTEX IS KIDNAPPING THE SKYSCRAPER... AND I'M HELPLESS TO STOP HIM!
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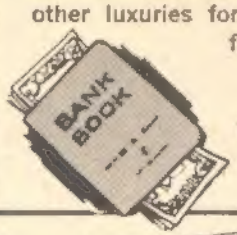

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01M

NIGHT IN SAN FRANCISCO--A DEEP-GRAY FOG SPILLS OVER THE CONCRETE STREETS AND HILLSIDES AND THE CITY SLEEPS. THAT IS, MOST OF THE CITY-- NOT ALL...
REALTY CO. RENTING OPENING NEXT WEEK
JUST MY LUCK TO FORGET THE THERMOS! I'LL HAVE TO STEP OUT FOR A CUP OF COFFEE-- AND HOPE NO ONE NOTICES I'M GONE!
THE SOFT SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS DISAPPEARS INTO THE MIDNIGHT FOG AND ANOTHER SOUND RISES TO REPLACE IT--THE WHISTLING ROAR OF AN APPROACHING--TORNADO!
AS IF CONTROLLED BY SOME MALIGNANT FORCE, THE GREAT SWIRLING MASS OF AIR SETTLES UPON A STRIKING--NEW SKYSCRAPING STRUCTURE...
...THEN IT MOVES ON, LEAVING NOTHING IN ITS WAKE...
WHAT--? B-BUT IT ISN'T POSSIBLE! IT'S JUST NOT POSSIBLE!
ACE REALTY CO. NOW RENTING OPENING NEXT WEEK
J-1422
MOMENTS LATER...
HELLO, POLICE? YOU'RE NOT GONNA BELIEVE THIS--BUT SOMEONE HAS STOLEN MY SKYSCRAPER!
HELLO? HELLO?
P.D.

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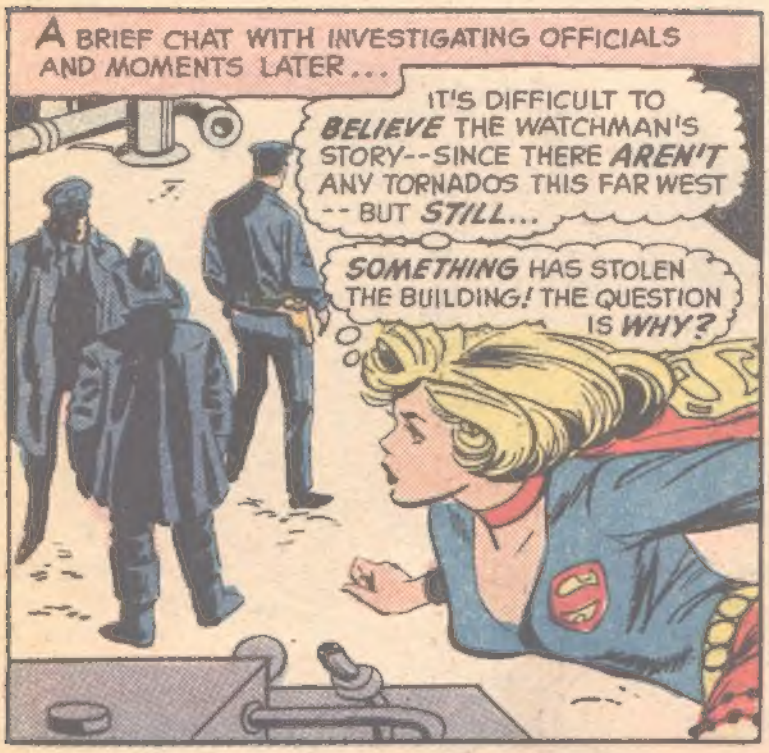
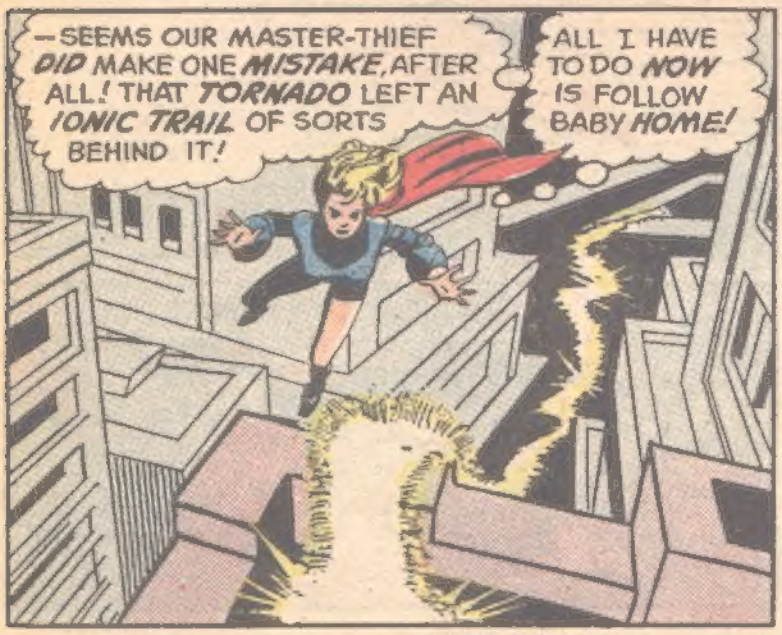
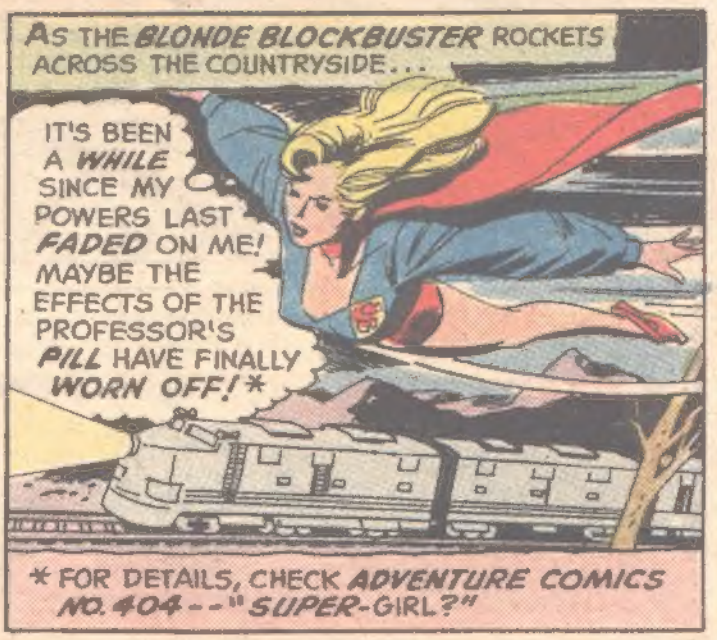
AND WORKING LATE IN THE OFFICES OF TELEVISION STATION KSF-TV, WE FIND...
A STOLEN SKYSCRAPER? THAT'S SOMETHING I'D HAVE TO SEE TO BELIEVE!
CHECK, GEOFF-- I'M ON MY WAY!
LINDA, GET DOWN THERE AND DO A LITTLE LEG-WORK-- SEE IF THIS STORY IS WORTH COVERING!
THAT'S QUITE A CHICK, THAT LINDA-- ALWAYS ON THE BALL!
MAYBE MORE THAN YOU KNOW, GEOFF!
ESPECIALLY IF SHE'S REALLY SUPERGIRL!
MOMENTS LATER, A SHRILL WHISTLING NOISE CUTS THROUGH THE MIDNIGHT AIR AND THOSE CONCERNED ENOUGH TO LOOK UPWARD FOR THE CAUSE ARE GREETED BY THE HURTLING VISION OF AN INCREASINGLY-FAMILIAR RED-AND-BLUE FIGURE--THE MAID OF MIGHT THAT MEN CALL...
SUPERGIRL
-WONDER WHAT GEOFF WOULD THINK IF HE KNEW THAT SUPERGIRL WAS DOING HIS LEG-WORK FOR HIM?
JOIN THE GIRL OF STEEL AS SHE IS DRAWN INTO THE SWIRLING DEPTHS OF THE MOST BIZARRE ADVENTURE OF HER CAREER. COME WITH HER INTO THE...
VORTEX!
STORY: LEN WEIN ARTIST: BOB OKSNER

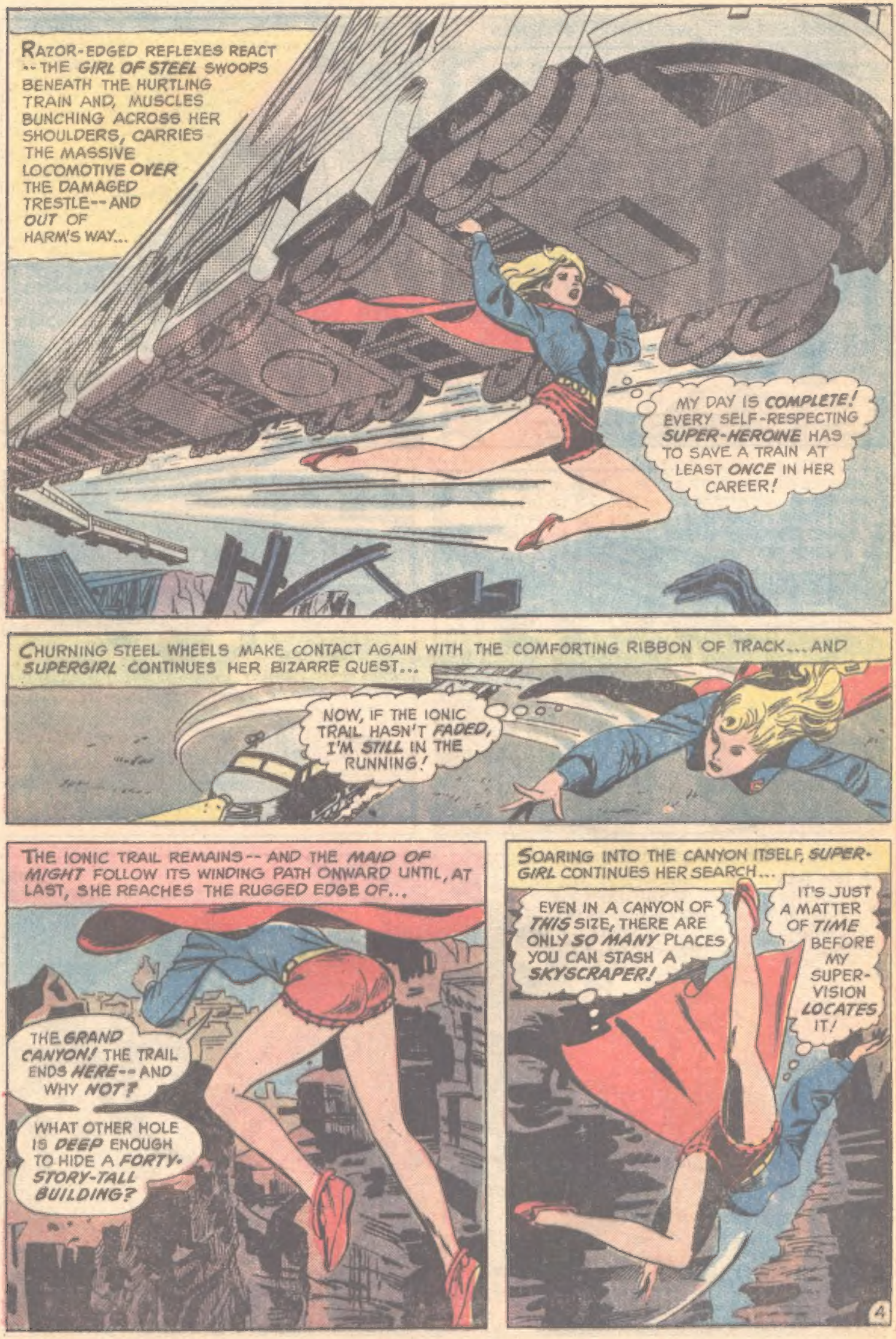

A BRIEF CHAT WITH INVESTIGATING OFFICIALS AND MOMENTS LATER...
IT'S DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THE WATCHMAN'S STORY--SINCE THERE AREN'T ANY TORNADOS THIS FAR WEST -- BUT STILL...
SOMETHING HAS STOLEN THE BUILDING! THE QUESTION IS WHY?

BUT AFTER SEVERAL MINUTES OF FRUITLESS SEARCHING...
AMAZING! THERE ISN'T A SINGLE CLUE TO THE ROBBERY... WHAT--?
THAT PIPE--- GLOWING STRANGELY! SOMETHING ONLY MY SUPER-VISION COULD DETECT!


--SEEMS OUR MASTER-THIEF DID MAKE ONE MISTAKE, AFTER ALL! THAT TORNADO LEFT AN IONIC TRAIL OF SORTS BEHIND IT!
ALL I HAVE TO DO NOW IS FOLLOW BABY HOME!


AS THE BLONDE BLOCKBUSTER ROCKETS ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE MY POWERS LAST FADED ON ME! MAYBE THE EFFECTS OF THE PROFESSOR'S PILL HAVE FINALLY WORN OFF! *
* FOR DETAILS, CHECK ADVENTURE COMICS NO. 404 -- "SUPER-GIRL?"

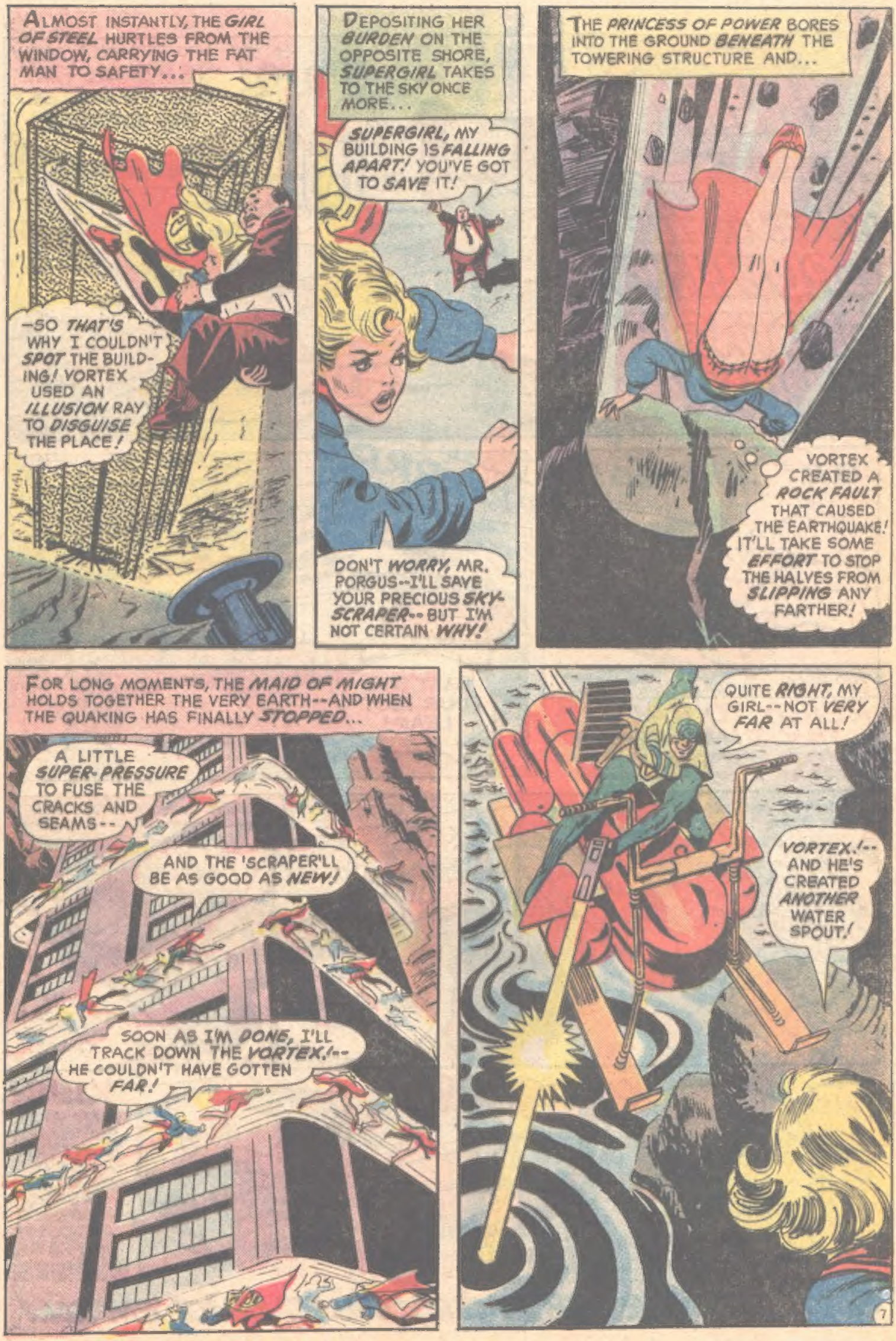
THIS HAS TO BE THE NEATEST TORNADO I'VE EVER SEEN! IT HASN'T LEFT THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF WRECKAGE IN ITS WAKE! IT'S...UH, OH, I SPOKE TOO SOON!
THAT TRESTLE IS TERRIBLY DAMAGED! IT WILL NEVER BEAR THE WEIGHT OF THAT STREAM-LINER!


RAZOR-EDGED REFLEXES REACT -- THE GIRL OF STEEL SWOOPS BENEATH THE HURTLING TRAIN AND, MUSCLES BUNCHING ACROSS HER SHOULDERS, CARRIES THE MASSIVE LOCOMOTIVE OVER THE DAMAGED TRESTLE -- AND OUT OF HARM'S WAY...
MY DAY IS COMPLETE! EVERY SELF-RESPECTING SUPER-HEROINE HAS TO SAVE A TRAIN AT LEAST ONCE IN HER CAREER!
CHURNING STEEL WHEELS MAKE CONTACT AGAIN WITH THE COMFORTING RIBBON OF TRACK... AND SUPERGIRL CONTINUES HER BIZARRE QUEST...
NOW, IF THE IONIC TRAIL HASN'T FADED, I'M STILL IN THE RUNNING!
THE IONIC TRAIL REMAINS -- AND THE MAID OF MIGHT FOLLOW ITS WINDING PATH ONWARD UNTIL, AT LAST, SHE REACHES THE RUGGED EDGE OF...
THE GRAND CANYON! THE TRAIL ENDS HERE -- AND WHY NOT?
WHAT OTHER HOLE IS DEEP ENOUGH TO HIDE A FORTY-STORY-TALL BUILDING?
SOARING INTO THE CANYON ITSELF, SUPERGIRL CONTINUES HER SEARCH...
EVEN IN A CANYON OF THIS SIZE, THERE ARE ONLY SO MANY PLACES YOU CAN STASH A SKYSCRAPER!
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE MY SUPER-VISION LOCATES IT!
4

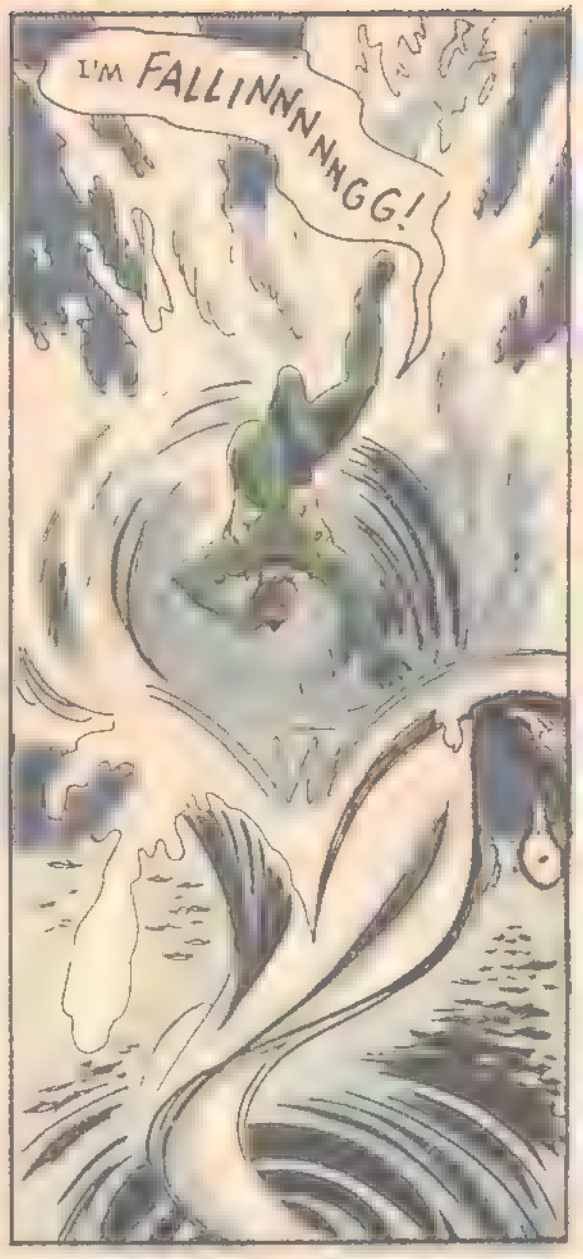
BUT TIME IS THE ONE THING THE GIRL OF STEEL DOESN'T HAVE--FOR SUDDENLY...
WELL, A GUEST--AND SUCH AN ILLUSTRIOUS ONE AT THAT! THE NAME IS VORTEX, SUPERGIRL--WELCOME TO THE GRAND CANYON!
WELCOME TO YOUR DEATH!
THE VORTEX!? THEN, YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ROBBERY! YOU'RE...
BUT BEFORE SUPERGIRL CAN COMPLETE HER SENTENCE...
WHA--? SOMEHOW THAT WEAPON OF HIS CREATED A GIANT WATER SPOUT!
VORTEX INTENDS TO GIVE ME A BATH--A PERMANENT ONE!
--AND HE JUST MIGHT SUCCEED! NO MATTER WHERE I TURN, THE SPOUT FOLLOWS ME--I CAN'T ESCAPE ITS GRASP! I MUST...
OH, NO--NOT NOW! IT CAN'T HAPPEN NOW!
--I'VE LOST MY SUPER-POWERS AGAIN! GOT TO ACTIVATE MY POWER-BRACELET BEFORE...
IT'S TOO LATE!
UGGHHH!!
HA HA HA HA HA!
5

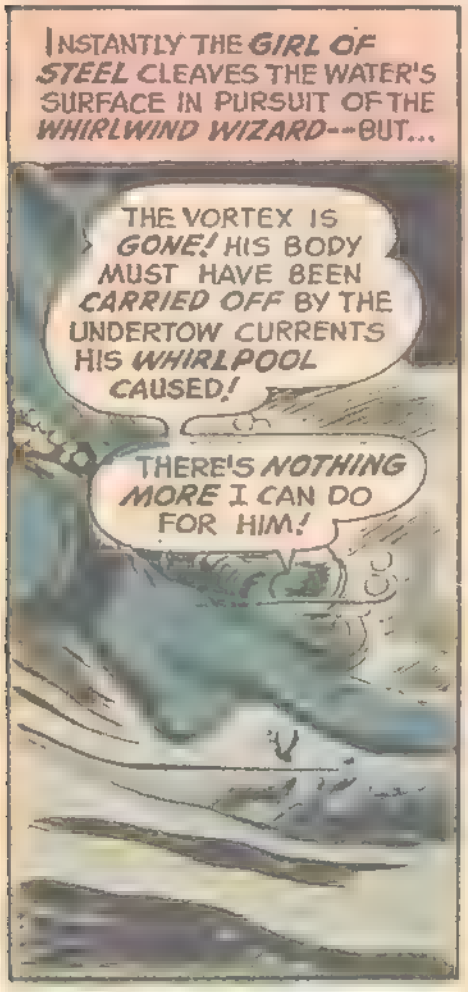
NOBODY CAN SAY HOW LONG IT TAKES THE GIRL OF STEEL TO CLIMB OUT OF THE DARKNESS...
AH, YOU'RE AWAKE, SUPERGIRL--GOOD! PERMIT ME TO INTRODUCE MR. HARRY PORGUS--THE OWNER OF THIS ELABORATE STRUCTURE! MYSELF YOU ALREADY KNOW!
SAVE ME, SUPERGIRL! HE'S SOME SORT OF MADMAN!
IF I AM--THEN YOU, SIR, ARE RESPONSIBLE!
THIS WAS MY BUILDING--I WAS THE ARCHITECT WHO DESIGNED IT! BUT YOU, IN YOUR ALL-CONSUMING GREED, GOT RID OF ME--AND CLAIMED THE DESIGN AS YOUR OWN!
BUT I FOUND OTHER PURSUITS! I ACCIDENTALLY LEARNED HOW TO CONTROL THE POWER OF CENTRIFUGAL FORCE--AND DECIDED TO USE THAT ABILITY TO GAIN MY REVENGE!
YOU WANTED THIS BUILDING SO BADLY, I'M GOING TO GIVE IT TO YOU!
I'M GOING TO BRING THE ENTIRE PLACE DOWN ON YOUR MISERABLE HEAD!
ISN'T IT SORT OF SELFISH TO KEEP THE ENTIRE SPECTACLE TO YOURSELF?
HE KEPT TALKING JUST LONG ENOUGH FOR MY POWERS TO RETURN!
SO--THE LITTLE LADY STILL HAS SOME FIGHT IN HER!
LET'S SEE YOU FIGHT THIS!
GREAT SCOTT! HE'S STARTED AN EARTHQUAKE!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.
6

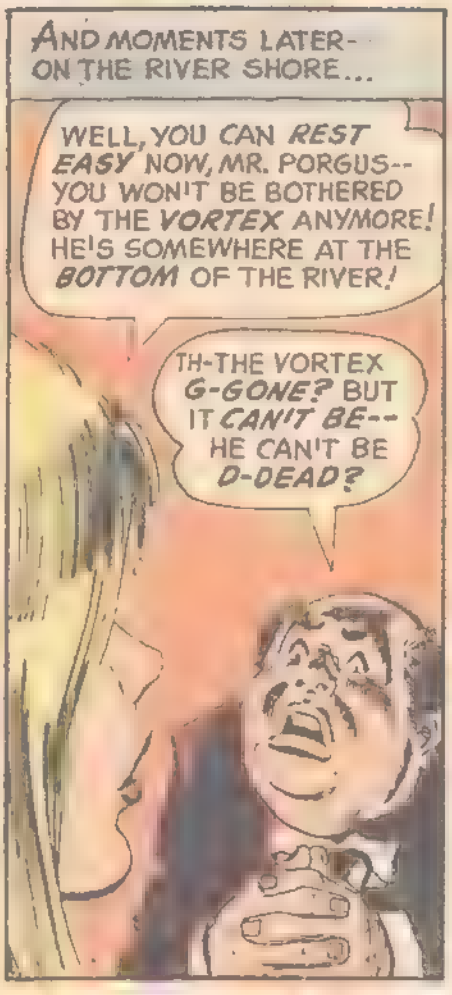
SSP
SUPER SONIC POWER
YOU GUYS THINK YOU'RE MAN ENOUGH TO TAKE ON THESE OBSTACLES?
YOU BET-OUR NEW SSP'S ARE THE WORLD'S FASTEST BIG RACERS!
TAKES ON THE GRUELING OBSTACLE RUN!
O.K.! LET'S GO!
PULL
WHIR-R-RR-RRR-RRRRRR
TWO MUCH
READY TO RACE!
NO TRACKS! NO BATTERIES!
GYRO-POWERED!
JUMP OBSTACLE
BLACK JACK
THAT'S A FOUR FOOT LEAP!
MY BLACK JACK MADE IT EASY!
80 FEET AND MY JET STAR IS STILL GOING!
DISTANCE OBSTACLE
WHIR-R-R-RRRR
JET STAR
SPEED OBSTACLE
WHIR-R-R-RRRRR
RAIL BIRD
WOW! 400 SCALE MPH!
ACCIDENT ON ACCURACY OBSTACLE!
INDY RACER
SUPER STOCKER
ONLY SSP RACERS COULD TAKE THAT!
ALL THE SSP RACERS MADE IT BECAUSE THEY'RE THE WORLD'S FASTEST AND TOUGHEST BIG RACERS!
WHIRR-RRR
MOD MERCER
FINISH
COPPER CART
KIDS- PUT YOUR SSP RACERS TO ANY TEST- ON ANY OBSTACLE COURSE- INDOORS OR OUTDOORS! THEY'RE THE WINNERS!
NOW! 17 KENNER SSP RACERS! COLLECT & RACE 'EM ALL!

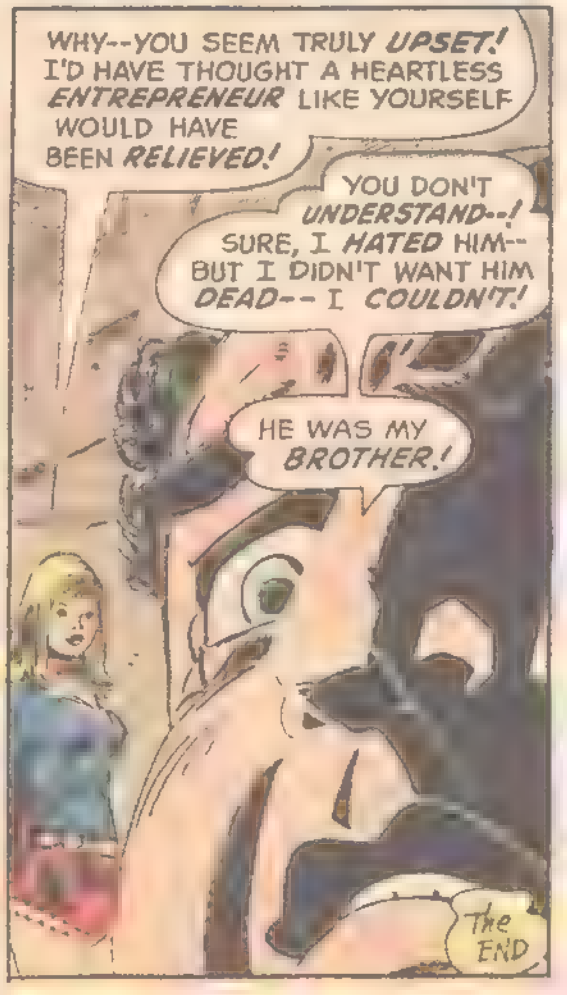

ALMOST INSTANTLY, THE GIRL OF STEEL HURTLES FROM THE WINDOW, CARRYING THE FAT MAN TO SAFETY...
—SO THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T SPOT THE BUILDING! VORTEX USED AN ILLUSION RAY TO DISGUISE THE PLACE!
DEPOSITING HER BURDEN ON THE OPPOSITE SHORE, SUPERGIRL TAKES TO THE SKY ONCE MORE...
SUPERGIRL, MY BUILDING IS FALLING APART! YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE IT!
DON'T WORRY, MR. PORGUS--I'LL SAVE YOUR PRECIOUS SKY-SCRAPER--BUT I'M NOT CERTAIN WHY!
THE PRINCESS OF POWER BORES INTO THE GROUND BENEATH THE TOWERING STRUCTURE AND...
VORTEX CREATED A ROCK FAULT THAT CAUSED THE EARTHQUAKE! IT'LL TAKE SOME EFFORT TO STOP THE HALVES FROM SLIPPING ANY FARTHER!
FOR LONG MOMENTS, THE MAID OF MIGHT HOLDS TOGETHER THE VERY EARTH--AND WHEN THE QUAKING HAS FINALLY STOPPED...
A LITTLE SUPER-PRESSURE TO FUSE THE CRACKS AND SEAMS--
AND THE 'SCRAPER'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW!
SOON AS I'M DONE, I'LL TRACK DOWN THE VORTEX!--HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR!
QUITE RIGHT, MY GIRL--NOT VERY FAR AT ALL!
VORTEX!--AND HE'S CREATED ANOTHER WATER SPOUT!
7

NOT THIS TIME, FRIEND--YOU'VE ALREADY RUINED ONE HAIRDO TONIGHT!
SKRAKT!
MY FLYER-- SHE'S SHATTERED MY FLYER!

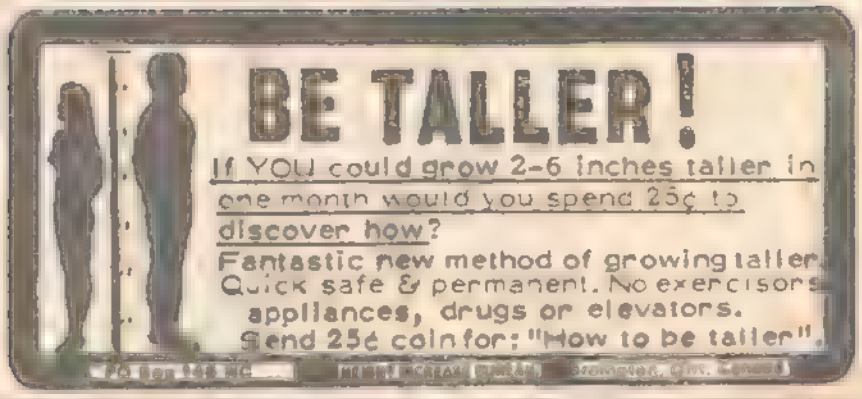

I'M FALLINNNNNGG!


INSTANTLY THE GIRL OF STEEL CLEAVES THE WATER'S SURFACE IN PURSUIT OF THE WHIRLWIND WIZARD--BUT...
THE VORTEX IS GONE! HIS BODY MUST HAVE BEEN CARRIED OFF BY THE UNDERTOW CURRENTS HIS WHIRLPOOL CAUSED!
THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN DO FOR HIM!


AND MOMENTS LATER- ON THE RIVER SHORE...
WELL, YOU CAN REST EASY NOW, MR. PORGUS-- YOU WON'T BE BOTHERED BY THE VORTEX ANYMORE! HE'S SOMEWHERE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RIVER!
TH-THE VORTEX G-GONE? BUT IT CAN'T BE-- HE CAN'T BE D-DEAD?


WHY--YOU SEEM TRULY UPSET! I'D HAVE THOUGHT A HEARTLESS ENTREPRENEUR LIKE YOURSELF WOULD HAVE BEEN RELIEVED!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND--! SURE, I HATED HIM-- BUT I DIDN'T WANT HIM DEAD-- I COULDN'T!
HE WAS MY BROTHER!
The END

WRITE RIGHT NOW!



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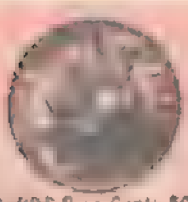

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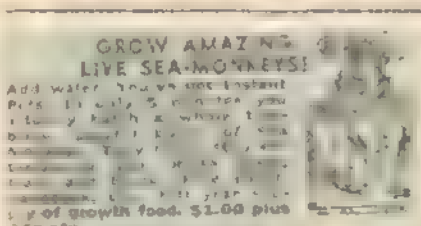

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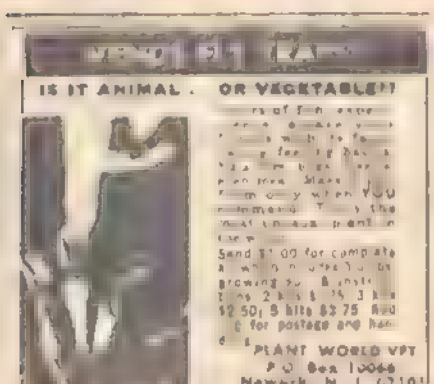

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FRAGMENTS OF *MEMORY*-- THE SHOCK AND FEAR IN HER HEART AS HER FATHER, *ZATARA* THE MAGICIAN, USED HIS SORCERY TO CAST HER OFF THE EARTH...

ANNATAZ, ENOGEB!

DAD--? W-WHAT ARE YOU *DOING?*

WHAT..? WE-WE'RE *FADING AWAY!*

FRAGMENTS OF *MEMORY*-- THE SIGHT AND SCENT OF THE TOTALLY ALIEN WORLD SHE AND HER MANAGER *JEFF SLOANE,* FOUND THEMSELVES UPON--AND THE IMAGE THAT CONFRONTED THEM IN HER MYSTIC GLOBE...

SOMEWHERE ON THIS WORLD IS HIDDEN A *DIMENSIONAL JUNCTURE,* JEFF! WE MUST FIND IT IF WE EVER HOPE TO RETURN TO EARTH-- *ALIVE!*

FRAGMENTS OF *MEMORY*-- THE SPECTRE OF *DREAD* THAT LURKED IN THE AIR AS SHE AND JEFF WERE SET UPON BY SAVAGE BARBARIANS --AND WERE FORCED TO BATTLE, PERHAPS UNTO *DEATH*.....

FRAGMENTS OF *MEMORY*--THAT SHIFT AND WELD TO FORM ONE SOLITARY *THOUGHT*--ONE PERSISTENT *IMAGE* THAT PRESSES ON HER MIND... HER *FATHER*--IT ALL BECOMES HER FATHER AND THE *MADNESS* IN HIS EYES. SOMETHING *PUT* THAT MADNESS THERE AND SHE MUST FIND OUT *WHAT.* BUT THE ANSWERS DWELL ON *EARTH*--AND HER HOME WORLD SEEMS SO TERRIBLY *FAR AWAY*... SUCH ARE THE *THOUGHTS* THAT FLOW THROUGH THE MIND OF...

ZATANNA the MAGICIAN!

LEN WEIN - Writer
GRAY MORROW - Artist

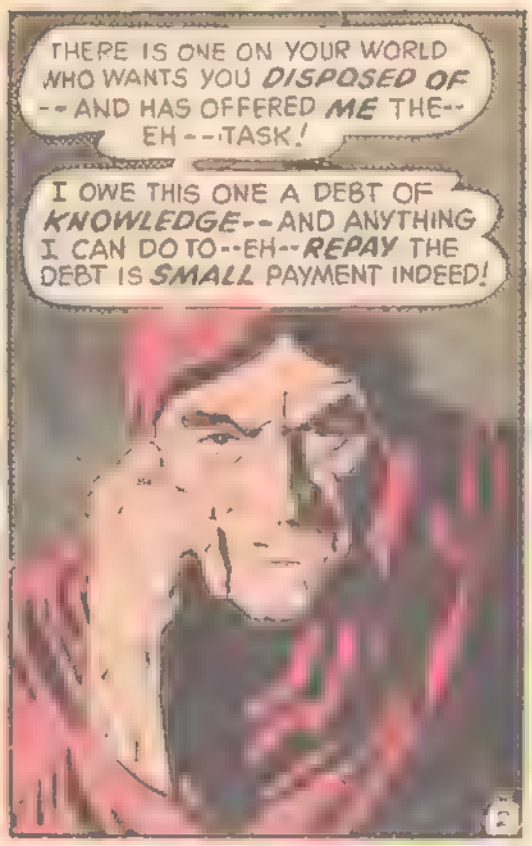
The TOWER OF THE DEAD!

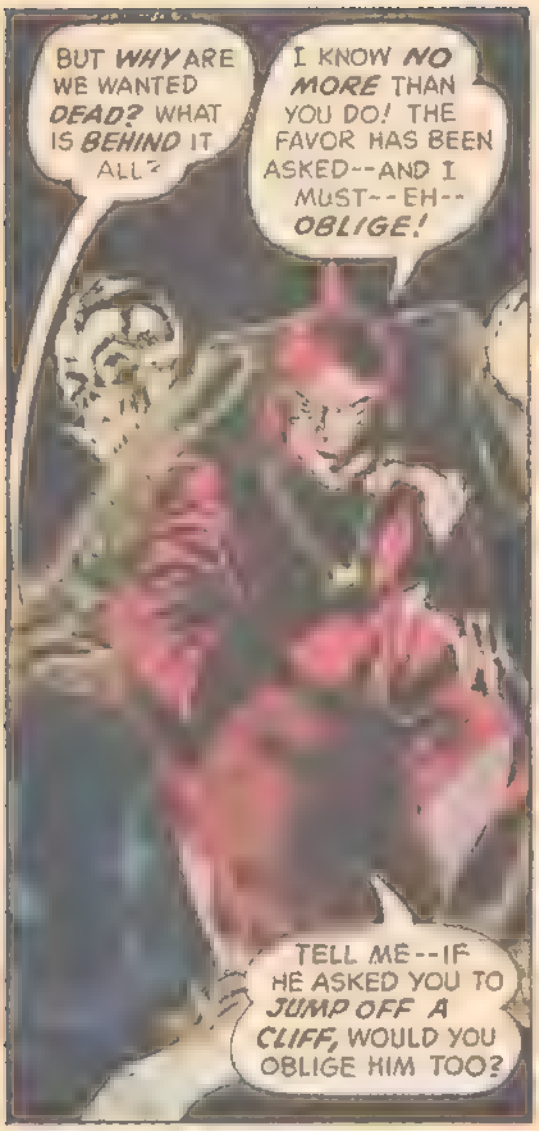
THEN THE JOURNEY ENDS... AND THE MEMORIES SCURRY BACK INTO THE DARKENED CORNERS...
YOU GO IN THERE! THE CHIEF AWAITS YOU!
WE GET THE POINT, FELLA! DON'T PRESS IT!

THE STENCH OF OLD MEAT ASSAILS THEIR NOSTRILS AS ZATANNA AND JEFF ENTER THE OLD STONE HOVEL...
WELCOME! I'VE--EH-- BEEN EXPECTING YOU! MY NAME IS--EH--VARNU! I'M KING HERE!
I'D TELL YOU WHO WE ARE--BUT SOMEHOW I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW!

VERY ASTUTE, MR. SLOANE! YOU'RE--EH-- AN INTELLIGENT MAN! IF THAT MUZZLE ANNOYS YOU, MISS ZATANNA, IT CAN BE REMOVED--PROVIDING YOU TRY NO-- EH--TRICKS! IF YOU DO, MR. SLOANE WILL BE--EH--PUT TO DEATH INSTANTLY!

A BRIEF NOD OF THE HEAD-- AND MOMENTS LATER...
OH, THAT'S BETTER! MY TONGUE WAS BEGINNING TO WILT!
WHY HAVE WE BEEN BROUGHT HERE?
THE GAG WAS-- EH--NECESSARY, ZATANNA--WE KNOW OF YOUR POWERS!
AND YOU HAVE BEEN BROUGHT HERE AS A FAVOR TO A FRIEND!


THERE IS ONE ON YOUR WORLD WHO WANTS YOU DISPOSED OF --AND HAS OFFERED ME THE-- EH--TASK!
I OWE THIS ONE A DEBT OF KNOWLEDGE--AND ANYTHING I CAN DO TO--EH--REPAY THE DEBT IS SMALL PAYMENT INDEED!


BUT WHY ARE WE WANTED DEAD? WHAT IS BEHIND IT ALL?
I KNOW NO MORE THAN YOU DO! THE FAVOR HAS BEEN ASKED--AND I MUST--EH--OBLIGE!
TELL ME--IF HE ASKED YOU TO JUMP OFF A CLIFF, WOULD YOU OBLIGE HIM TOO?

THERE IS A SUDDEN BLUR OF MOTION AND...
UGHH!
JEFF--! LEAVE HIM ALONE, YOU...!
TEMPER, MY DEAR ZATANNA! WHAT I MUST DO PAINS ME --EH--DEEPLY ENOUGH AS IT IS!

JUST WHAT IS IT YOU PLAN TO DO, ANYWAY?
YES--I SUPPOSE IT IS TIME YOU--EH--FOUND OUT!
BORG, BRING FORTH THE RIDING BEASTS! WE HAVE A DISTANCE TO--EH--TRAVEL BEFORE OUR TASK IS DONE!

THE JOURNEY IS LONG AND WEARYING, AND THE AMBER-COLORED SKY HAS GROWN DARK AND MOODY WHEN THE SMALL BAND FINALLY REINS ITS BEASTS TO A HALT. THERE IT STANDS BEFORE THEM, CRUEL, UNYIELDING, TWISTING UP WITH GRAVEN FINGERS TO PLUCK AT THE STARS--A SOLITARY STONE STRUCTURE--THE TOWER OF THE DEAD!

SOFT, MY PET--WE'VE REACHED OUR --EH--DESTINATION!

AND WOE UNTO US ALL!

SWELL! THE CASTLE OF DRACULA LIVES AGAIN!

NOT QUITE, JEFF--BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'RE NOT FAR WRONG!

CAUTIOUSLY, THE RIDERS CANTER CLOSER TO THE BIZARRE STRUCTURE AND FINALLY...
YOU MAY GET DOWN FROM YOUR--EH-- STEEDS NOW! YOU'LL HAVE NO FURTHER NEED OF THEM!
I WAS AFRAID HE'D SAY THAT!
EXACTLY WHAT SORT OF TOWER IS THIS, KING VARNU?
MY PEOPLE HAVE CALLED IT "THE TOWER OF THE DEAD" --FOR NO ONE TO ENTER THIS--EH-- PORTAL HAS RETURNED THROUGH IT-- ALIVE!
NOW IT IS YOUR TURN TO--EH-- ENTER, MY UNFORTUNATE FRIENDS! BELIEVE ME--I REGRET THAT I MUST DO THIS!
NOT HALF AS MUCH AS WE DO, SWEETHEART! COULDN'T WE TAKE A RAIN CHECK?
THE HEAVY WOODEN DOOR SWINGS SILENTLY SHUT, PLUNGING THE TOWER--AND ITS TWO NEW OCCUPANTS--INTO TOTAL DARKNESS...
NOPE--NO RAIN CHECKS! FRIENDLY SORT, AREN'T THEY?
QUIET, JEFF--I'VE GOT TO CONCENTRATE!
SEPOR, EITNU SU! NCROT RAEPPA!
RECITING HER COMMANDS BACKWARDS, ZATANNA BRINGS GREAT MYSTIC FORCES INTO PLAY--FREEING HER AND JEFF AND FLOODING THE MUSTY TOWER WITH...
LIGHT!?!
I WISH YOU'D WARN ME BEFORE YOU DO THAT! YOU ALMOST CHARRED MY FINGERS!
FORGIVE ME JEFF--BUT YOU MUST ADMIT IT DID THE JOB!
4

CAUTIOUSLY, THE TRAPPED DUO MAKES ITS WAY UP THE CHISELED STAIRS...
I'M STILL WAITING FOR BELA LUGOSI TO COME POPPING OUT OF THE WOODWORK!
YOUR SENSE OF "HUMOR" WE CAN DO WITHOUT!
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THIS PLACE --SOME ODD MYSTIC VIBRATION I CAN'T PIN DOWN! I...
WHAT--?
SWIFTLY AS IF FROM THE VERY SHADOWS, THEY COME-- GNARLED, TWISTED WARRIORS, WITH FACES LIKE CRAVEN STONE. THEY COME-- AND THERE IS MURDER IN THEIR EYES...
NOW WE KNOW WHY NOBODY GOT OUT OF HERE IN ONE PIECE!
THIS LOOKS LIKE A CONVENTION OF HOLLYWOOD BOOKING AGENTS!
AN ARMY OF THE DAMNED-- BUT WHAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM?
MAYBE THEY DON'T EAT PROPERLY!
GNIRETTAB MAR RAEPPA!
HEY, ONCE YOU GET THE HANG OF THIS GAME, IT'S FUN! I FEEL LIKE A POOR MAN'S ROBIN HOOD!
WELL, WE HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO CONTINUE THIS CHARADE WITH YOUR "MERRY MEN"! THE OCCULT VIBRATIONS GROW STRONGER FROM ABOVE!
SWEETHEART, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU'RE A FIRST-CLASS SPOIL-SPORT!
EZEERB, PEEWS EHT SROIRRAW YAWA!
5

LEAVING THEIR OPPONENTS SPRAWLED ALONG THE STAIRWELL LIKE BROKEN DOLLS, *ZATANNA* AND *JEFF* CLAMBER TO THE TOP OF THE TOWER, WHERE THEY DISCOVER...

THIS IS *IT*, JEFF! KING VARNJ DID US AN UNINTENTIONAL FAVOR *HIMSELF!* WE'VE FOUND THE *DIMENSIONAL JUNCTURE*--AND OUR WAY BACK TO *EARTH!*

A MOMENT OF CONCENTRATION, THE PROPER MAGIC WORDS--AND THE DIMENSION WARP UNFOLDS...

THE WARP IS IN *FLUX* NOW, JEFF! IT WILL *FOCUS* IN A MOMENT--AND WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY *HOME!*

A *MOMENT*--AND YOU BE ON YOUR WAY TO *HELL!*

WHAT..?

BABY--*LOOK OUT!*

YOU BE *NIMBLE*, PUNY ONES--BUT *GORGONUS* BE NIMBLE, TOO... AND GORGONUS BE *STRONG* LIKE THE MOUNTAINS AS WELL! HE WILL *CRUSH* YOUR WEAKLING *BONES!*

INSTANTLY, *JEFF SLOANE* HURLS HIMSELF THROUGH THE AIR, HIS RUSTED SWORD FLASHING IN THE AIR--BUT...

PUNY ONE, YOUR STICKER NOT *HURT* GORGONUS! HE HAS BEEN IN THIS PLACE SINCE *BEFORE* TIME--HE WILL BE HERE *AFTER* TIME STILL!

ANYONE EVER TELL YOU YOU BEAR A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO--UGH--*PHYLLIS DILLER?* THE HAIR, I...

UUNNHH--MY WRISTS! YOU'RE--*BREAKING* THEM!

THE THING CALLED GORGONUS GLARES DEEPLY INTO JEFF SLOANE'S EYES AND THE HANDSOME YOUNG TALENT MANAGER SUDDENLY GOES SILENT--THEN...
THE PUNY ONE WITH THE MOUTH BOTHERS GORGONUS NO MORE!
IF YOU'VE HURT JEFF, I'LL...
NOW GORGONUS HAS TIME FOR YOU!
SEGAM!, YLPITLUM!
WHAT--? YOU TRY TO OUTNUMBER GORGONUS! BUT GORGONUS IS FAST--GORGONUS IS SMART...
AND GORGONUS WILL TRIUMPH!
NO! I'M FALLING--FALLING INTO THE SKY...
AAAIEEEE
THE WARP WASN'T IN FOCUS YET! GORGONUS WILL FALL THROUGH NOTHINGNESS --FOREVER!
THE SOUNDS OF THE MAN-THING'S SCREAMING FADES INTO THE CORNERS OF THE ROOM--AND THE PRINCESS OF PRESTIDIGITATION TURNS TO HELP HER COMPANION...
COME ON, JEFF, LETS...
JEFF? OH, JEFFREY--NOOOOO!
THE GAZE OF THE GORGONUS HAS TURNED HIM TO--STONE!
THE DIMENSIONAL WARP BEGINS TO QUIVER AND HUM--BUT ONLY THE SOUNDS OF SOFT SOBBING CAN BE HEARD IN THE ROOM...
NEXT ISSUE: KILL--OR BE KILLED!
END

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THERE I WAS--WITH THE AGILITY OF A TIGER SURGING THROUGH MY [illegible] THE STRENGTH OF A GORILLA AND THE CUNNING OF A FOX! FOR I HAD ONCE AGAIN ACQUIRED BIZARRE ANIMAL POWERS--AND IN A MOST INCREDIBLE WAY! VISITORS FROM ANOTHER PLANET HAD COME TO EARTH FOR SINISTER REASONS AND, THROUGH A STRANGE QUIRK OF FATE, I ALONE COULD [illegible] THEIR OMINOUS MISSION!

THE RETURN OF THE MAN WITH ANIMAL POWERS

THAT PUTS AN END TO THE EARTHLING! NOW LET'S GET ABOUT OUR BUSINESS, TRANO...
HOLY COW! THEIR RAY BLAST... IT'S BLOWN THE ENTIRE LAKE SKY-HIGH... AND ME WITH IT!
GIL KANE

"ELLEN -- THAT NAME WAS MUSIC TO MY EARS! WE WERE SITTING ON HER PORCH WITH NOTHING BUT MARRIAGE PLANS ON OUR MINDS...

AND TO THINK THAT YOU MAY NEVER HAVE PROPOSED TO ME IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THAT TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE YOU HAD WITH THOSE ANIMAL POWERS, BUDDY..."

I KNOW... IT TOOK A LOT OF TIGER IN ME TO ASK YOU, ELLEN...

ADVENTURE #412

"AND SPEAKING OF TIGERS, I'LL NEVER FORGET THE TIME I CAME TO GRIPS WITH THE ONE THAT ATTACKED ME..."

"THAT'S WHEN I DISCOVERED I HAD THE STRENGTH OF THE GORILLA, WHO WAS ALSO COMING AT ME."

"AND THE ROGUE ELEPHANT-- IMAGINE ME TACKLING A BRUTE LIKE THAT "

"AND TO THINK THAT I NEVER WOULD HAVE HAD SUCH POWERS IF I HADN'T STUMBLED UPON THAT SPACE CAPSULE THAT EXPLODED IN MY FACE..."

KA-BOOM

"IT WAS THE RADIATION THAT DID IT-- AFFECTED MY ENTIRE BODY WHENEVER I GOT CLOSE TO ANY ANIMAL! AND IT ALSO AFFECTED THE CREATURE FROM THE CAPSULE."

"WOW! WHAT A MONSTER! WE NEVER DID LEARN WHAT THAT THING WAS SENT HERE FOR-- OR WHY! BUT HE SURE GAVE ME PROBLEMS..."

AAAKOOO

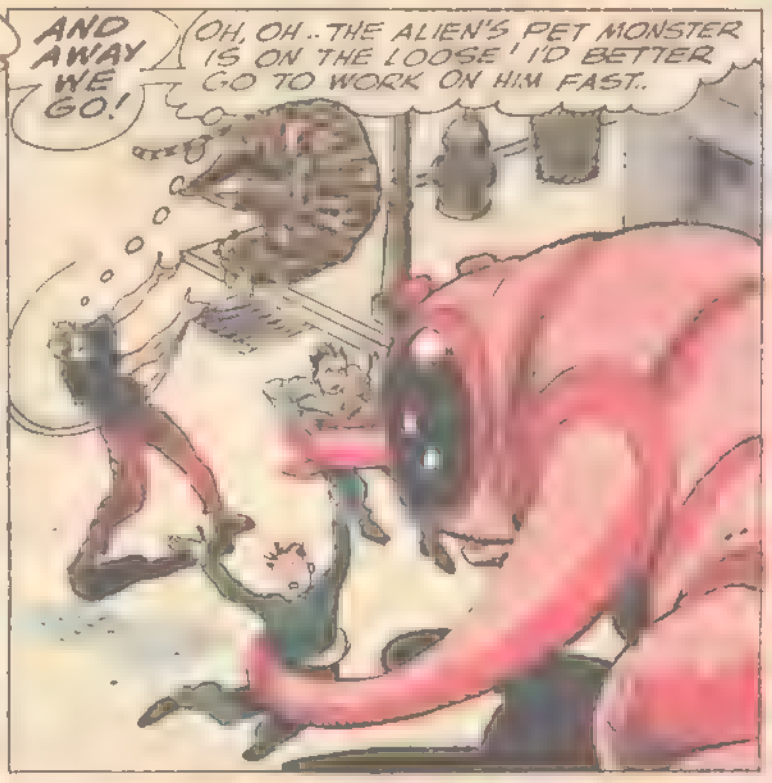
TOSSING ME AROUND LIKE A-- A BABY... AND I'VE GOT ANIMAL POWERS!

THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST NOW, DEAR! AND AFTER YOU LOST YOUR ANIMAL POWERS, YOU WERE CLEVER ENOUGH TO OUTWIT THAT BEAST AND DESTROY HIM...
YEAH. BUT IT WAS SURE A CLOSE CALL! I'M GLAD IT'S OVER...
BUDDY!
ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE CRAZY CAPSULES... ALMOST LIKE THE ONE THAT EXPLODED! ONLY MUCH LARGER! I--I FOUND IT PARTIALLY CONCEALED IN THE WOODS...
WHAT, ROGER?...
"YOU HEARD ME RIGHT, PAL--I WAS HUNTING JUST SOUTH OF DEEP HOLLOW! AND THERE IT WAS--BIG AS LIFE..."
IT'S THERE, ALL RIGHT... SOMETHING LIKE THE ONE THAT EXPLODED IN FRONT OF BUDDY! I WONDER IF ANOTHER OF THOSE CREATURES IS INSIDE...?
"BUT WHEN I TRIED TO PUT MY MITTS ON IT..."
YEOW! THERE'S A FORCE FIELD OF SOME KIND ABOUT THE THING... CAN'T GET CLOSE TO IT...
THERE'S PROBABLY ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE NIGHTMARES YOU TANGLED WITH, RUNNING AROUND! WE'VE GOT TO WARN EVERYONE--FAST!
AND ME WITHOUT THOSE ANIMAL POWERS! THIS IS GOING TO BE SOME SHOW! WAIT HERE, ELLEN--I'LL KEEP IN TOUCH!
BE CARE-FUL, DEAR!
3

ROGER GUNNED HIS JEEP INTO TOWN LIKE A BULLET! WE'D ROUNDED UP A FEW OF THE LOCAL BOYS AND WERE LOOKING FOR MORE WHEN...
JEHOSHAPHAT! WE-WE GOT OURSELVES A COUPLE OF VISITORS!
AND THEY BROUGHT ALONG A PET...
TAKE COVER!
BUT BEFORE WE KNEW IT, THE AIR WAS ALIVE WITH CRAZY RAY BLASTS...
THEY NAILED US... BUT... WE'RE ALL STILL ALIVE...
WE WERE ALIVE, ALL RIGHT--ALIVE AND KICKING! THE NEXT THING I REMEMBER, ROGER TURNED TOWARDS ME AND...
ROG... BELTED ME... BUT I-- I DIDN'T EVEN FEEL IT! MY BODY... I FEEL LIKE I DID... WHEN I HAD ANIMAL POWERS...
THEN IT HIT ME--LIKE A TON OF BRICKS...
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME KIND OF HATE RAY... EVERYONE ATTACKING EACH OTHER! BUT IT DIDN'T HAVE THE SAME REACTION ON ME... INSTEAD, IT SEEMS TO HAVE RESTORED THE ANIMAL POWERS I HAD BEFORE!
H-HUH! THAT CAT--IT'S TURNED INTO A-- A TIGER!
4

AND THAT'S HOW I MOVED-- LIKE A TIGER!
THE RAY HAD ANOTHER EFFECT ON THE CAT.. MADE IT GIGANTIC! AND IT'S ATTACKING... GOT TO TAKE CARE OF IT...

C'MON, PAL... WE'RE GOING TO PLAY RING-AROUND-THE-ROSY... LIKE I DID ONCE BEFORE!


AND AWAY WE GO!
OH, OH.. THE ALIEN'S PET MONSTER IS ON THE LOOSE! I'D BETTER GO TO WORK ON HIM FAST..

THAT'S WHEN I BROUGHT MY OLD COMBINATION INTO PLAY-- A TIGER SPRING AND A GORILLA SOCK-- RIGHT IN THE KISSER...
THAT SHOULD HOLD YOU AWHILE, PAL-- UNTIL I TAKE CARE OF YOUR MASTERS.

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN TIME WAS RUNNING OUT ON ME-- IT WAS!
OUR HATE RAY HAS NOT AFFECTED THAT EARTHLING-- HE IS ATTACKING US, TRANO!
A STUN BLAST WILL TAKE HIM OUT OF ACTION, ZAARN-- WATCH!

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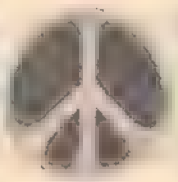

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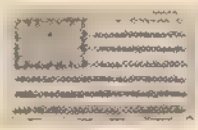

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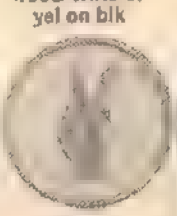

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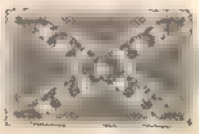

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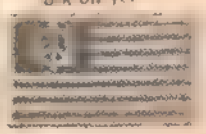

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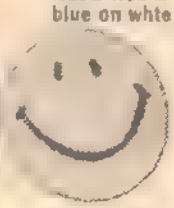

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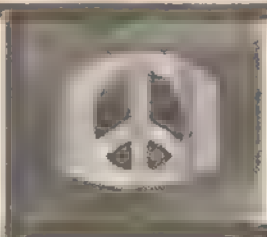

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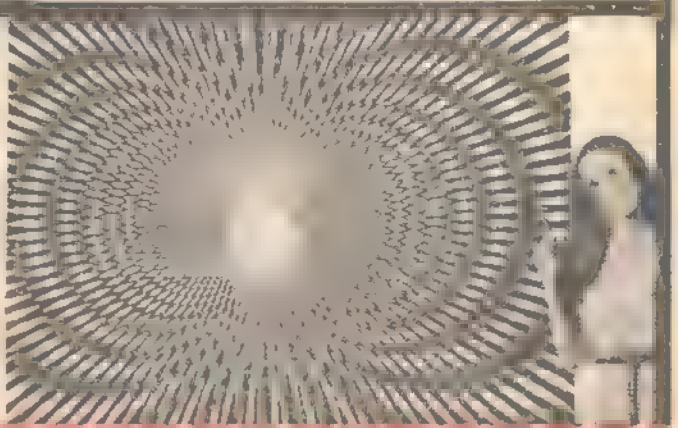

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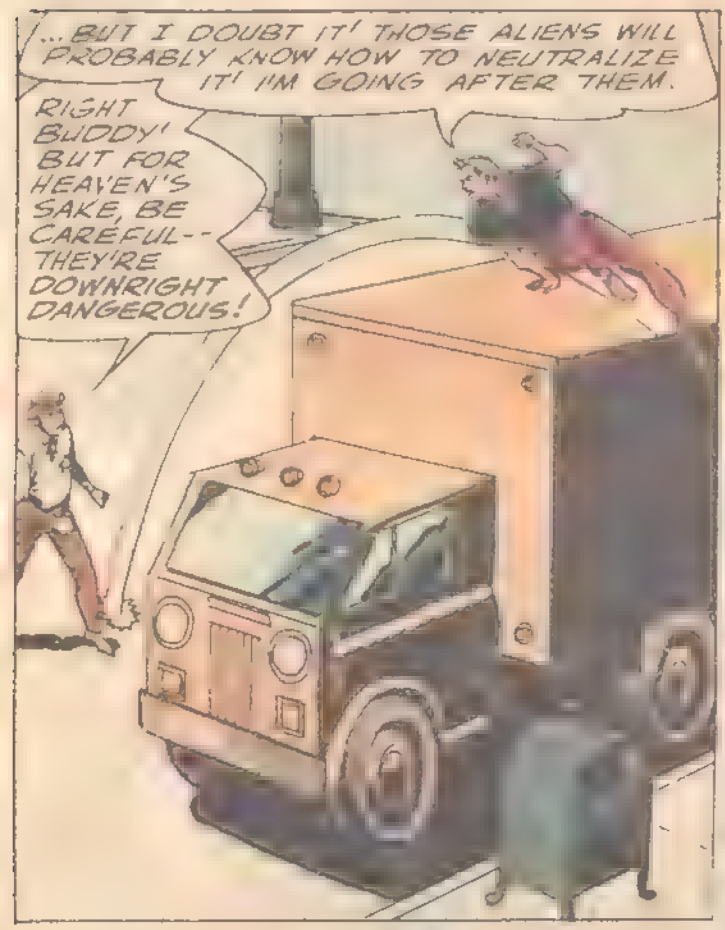
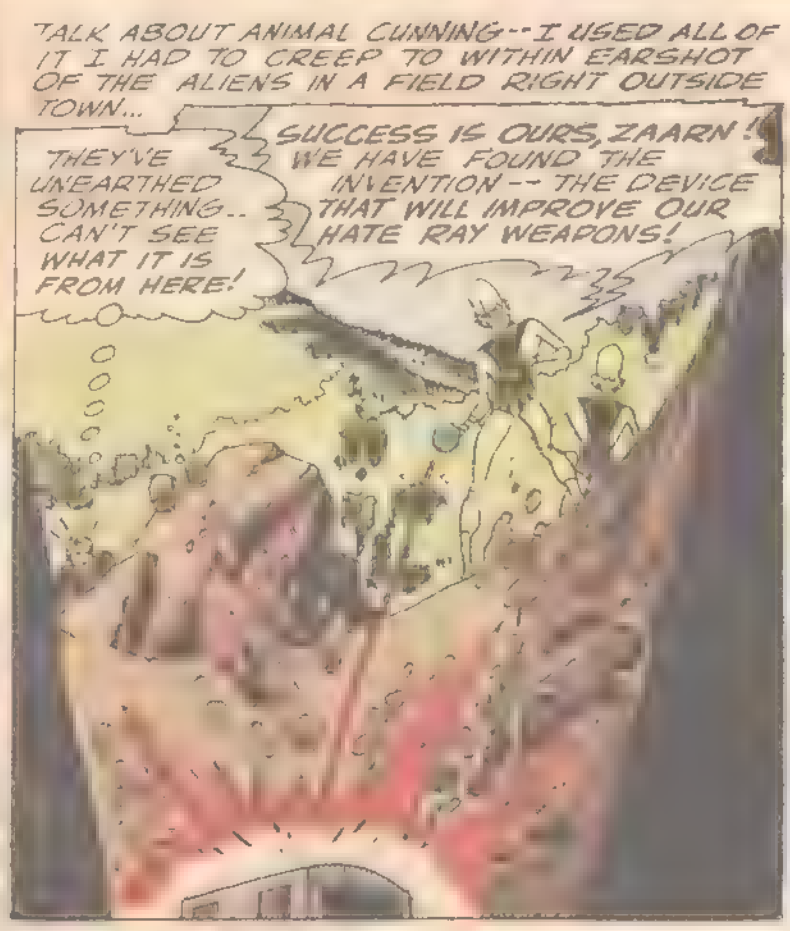
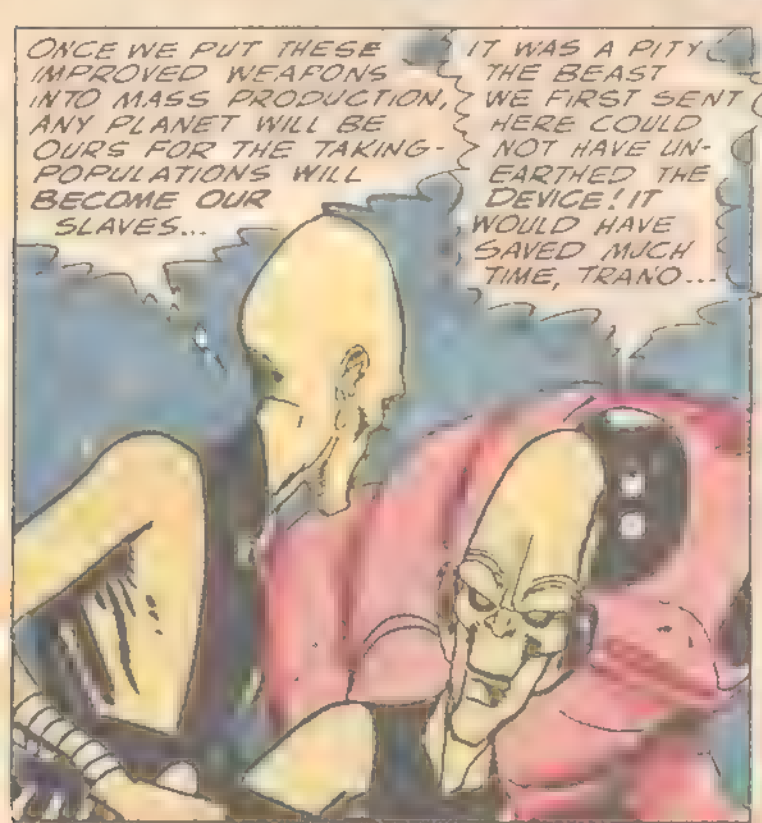
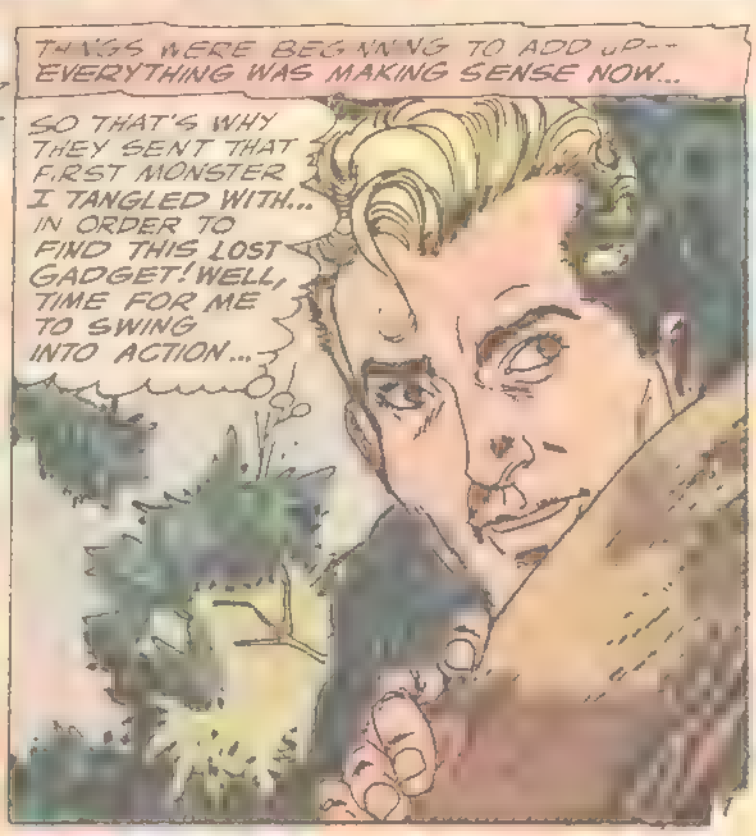
I PICKED UP HIS WORDS TELEPATHICALLY--AND HE WAS RIGHT--BOY, WAS HE RIGHT!
THAT WILL SILENCE HIM! NOW LET US REVIVE OUR XTONA BEAST AND GO ABOUT OUR BUSINESS! THERE IS MUCH TO DO..
KA-ZAP
WHEN I SAW DAYLIGHT AGAIN, I SAW NOTHING BUT TROUBLE ALL AROUND ME--BIG TROUBLE!
THEY'RE STILL UNDER THE EFFECTS OF THAT CRAZY HATE RAY... SLUGGING THE BRAINS OUT OF EACH OTHER! I'VE GOT TO PUT A STOP TO THIS NONSENSE--AND FAST!
THIS FENCE SHOULD DO THE TRICK... AT LEAST IT'S A STARTER...
A FEW KANGAROO LEAPS GOT ME RIGHT INTO THE ACTION..
GOT TO MAKE SURE I GET THEM ALL... ONE STRAY COULD CAUSE TROUBLE LATER...
NOW TO USE SOME OF MY GORILLA MUSCLE TO WRAP THIS SHOW UP..

SECONDS LATER, I HAD MY PACKAGE...
PLACE THESE PEOPLE INTO INDIVIDUAL JAIL CELLS, SHERIFF -- AND CALL A DOCTOR! HE MAY BE ABLE TO FIND AN ANTIDOTE FOR THAT HATE RAY!


...BUT I DOUBT IT! THOSE ALIENS WILL PROBABLY KNOW HOW TO NEUTRALIZE IT! I'M GOING AFTER THEM.
RIGHT BUDDY! BUT FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, BE CAREFUL -- THEY'RE DOWNRIGHT DANGEROUS!


TALK ABOUT ANIMAL CUNNING -- I USED ALL OF IT I HAD TO CREEP TO WITHIN EARSHOT OF THE ALIENS IN A FIELD RIGHT OUTSIDE TOWN...
THEY'VE UNEARTHED SOMETHING.. CAN'T SEE WHAT IT IS FROM HERE!
SUCCESS IS OURS, ZAARN! WE HAVE FOUND THE INVENTION -- THE DEVICE THAT WILL IMPROVE OUR HATE RAY WEAPONS!


ONCE WE PUT THESE IMPROVED WEAPONS INTO MASS PRODUCTION, ANY PLANET WILL BE OURS FOR THE TAKING - POPULATIONS WILL BECOME OUR SLAVES...
IT WAS A PITY THE BEAST WE FIRST SENT HERE COULD NOT HAVE UNEARTHED THE DEVICE! IT WOULD HAVE SAVED MUCH TIME, TRANO...


THINGS WERE BEGINNING TO ADD UP -- EVERYTHING WAS MAKING SENSE NOW...
SO THAT'S WHY THEY SENT THAT FIRST MONSTER I TANGLED WITH... IN ORDER TO FIND THIS LOST GADGET! WELL, TIME FOR ME TO SWING INTO ACTION...

I FIGURED THE BEST THING TO DO WAS JUMP THEM FROM BEHIND--LION-LIKE! BUT AS I MADE MY MOVE...

OH OH. THERE GOES THE BALL GAME...

THE EARTHLING! I HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF HIS NONSENSE--A DISINTEGRATOR BLAST SHOULD TAKE CARE OF HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL!

SNAP!

THE BOYS WERE ALL BUSINESS THIS TIME--AND I WASN'T HAVING ANY OF IT...

ONE BLAST FROM THAT RAY AND I'LL BE EVAPORATED! ONLY CHANCE IS TO RUN FOR IT--HOPE TO CIRCLE THEM AND ATTACK...

THERE I WAS--SWINGING [illegible] A GORILLA AND PLAYING TAG WITH THEIR RAY BLASTS...

THEY CAN'T KEEP MISSING FOREVER... GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO KEEP UP MY LIFE INSURANCE...

THAT WHEN I STARTED PITCHING.

RIGHT ON TARGET... THEIR SHOTS ARE GOING WILD...

THEY WERE WILD ALL RIGHT--AND ONE OF THEM CAUGHT ME WHERE IT HURT

HIT THE TREE LIMB.. THAT'S THE END OF THIS CIRCUS... GOING DOWN

THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN IT--IF I DIDN'T HAVE ANIMAL POWERS! BUT I LANDED WITH TIGER-LIKE AGILITY--AND TOOK OFF...
I'M A SITTING DUCK FOR THEM IN THIS CLEARING... AND NO COVER... UNLESS...
...I MAKE LIKE A FISH!
DOWN I WENT--TO THE DEEP SIX! IT WAS THE ONLY COVER I HAD..
LUCKY I ACQUIRED A SEAL'S CHARACTERISTICS LAST TIME--I CAN STAY BENEATH THE SURFACE FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME... LONG ENOUGH, I HOPE, TO DISCOURAGE THOSE CHARACTERS UP THERE...
BUT THOSE GUYS WERE DETERMINED
THE EARTHLING FOOL TO THINK THAT HE COULD ESCAPE HIS FATE IN THE DEPTHS! OUR AQUA-RAY WILL FINISH HIM OFF..
SUDDENLY, I FELT I WAS BEING SHOT OUT OF A CANNON--EVERYTHING WAS GOING UP.
WHAT'S HAPPENING...
9

THE NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS AIR-BORNE--ME, A FEW THOUSAND FISH AND TONS OF WATER...
HOLY COW! THE WHOLE LAKE'S TAKING OFF... AND ME WITH IT!
THAT PUTS AN END TO THE EARTHLING! NOW, LET US GO ABOUT OUR BUSINESS, TRANO! HA! HA!
THERE I WAS--PLAYING TAG WITH THE CLOUDS... AND NO EARTHLY CHANCE OF SURVIVING...
THIS IS IT... NO ANIMAL POWER I'VE GOT CAN GET ME OUT OF THIS ONE...
THAT'S WHEN I SPOTTED THE EAGLE --AND I GOT A BRAINSTORM!
GOT TO MAKE LIKE A DUCK AND ATTRACT OLD BALDIE'S ATTENTION... I'VE GOT TO GET HIM CLOSE TO ME!
HONK... HONK...
IT'S SPOTTED ME!
10

MONSTER S-I-Z-E MONSTERS

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In Authentic Colors With GLOW in the DARK EYES

ONLY $1.00

TEN DAY FREE TRIAL

Just imagine your friends shock when they walk into your room and see the "Monster" reaching out—bigger than life-Frankenstein, the original man-made monster, that creation of evil genius that terrorized the world. A giant 7 feet tall, his eyes glow eerily as his hand reaches out—as awful and sinister as the wildest nightmare. Yes—Frankenstein is 7 feet tall, in authentic colors on durable polyethelene, and so lifelike you'll probably find yourself talking to him. Won't you be surprised if he answers? Comes complete with eyes that glow even in the pitch dark for a special thrilling chill.

Boney the Skeleton. And then there is Boney—stark scary with nothing left but his bare bones. A 7 foot monster out of the grave—his bones white, his eyes staring—even glowing in the dark.

Money Back Guarantee.

Just send $1.00 plus 35c to cover postage and handling for each monster you want. Your money back if not satisfactorily horrified.

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Rush me my 7 foot tall glow in the dark monsters. Send me ☐ Frankenstein ☐ Boney the Skeleton

I enclose $1 plus 35c for postage and handling for each. If I don't get shivers of delight, I can return my purchase within 10 days and you will refund the full purchase price.

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CITY ..... STATE ..... ZIP .....

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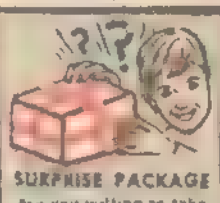
Precision camera so small, it fits in cigarette pack. Weighs 2½ ounces and takes 10 pictures per roll. Precision ground lens and time expose shutter. Can be hidden anywhere. Complete with free roll of film.

No. 788 ..... $1.00

+ Rolls Film $1.00



SURPRISE PACKAGE

Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth.

No. 878 ..... Only 50c

JOY BUZZER

Windup novelty you wear like a ring. Your victim gets a "SHOCKING" hand shake. Absolutely harmless.

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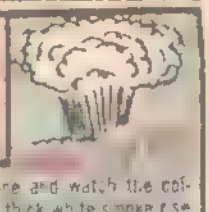

Light one and watch the column of thick white smoke rise to the ceiling and expand into a dense cloud. Sensational surprising effect.

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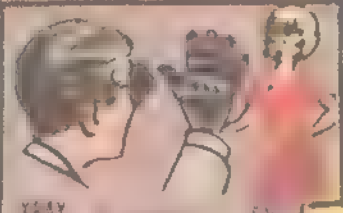

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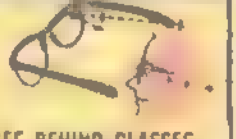

SEE BEHIND GLASSES

A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing that you're watching.

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FANTASTIC LIFE-SIZE GHOST

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Deck is marked and shaped. Can be read from the back but looks like ordinary deck. With instructions for 10 tricks or more.

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With combination lock only you can open.

Looks like any book to camouflage your valuables. Securely locked with your own private combination. Tough under-structure is covered with simulated leather binding.

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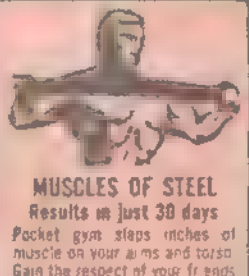

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Results in just 30 days

Pocket gym slaps inches of muscle on your arms and torso. Gain the respect of your friends.

[illegible]

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20 Course Home Study Program

KARATE

JUDO, BOXING
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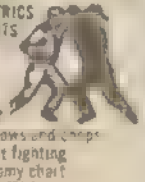

FREE NERVE CENTER CHART

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- [illegible] KARATE blows and chops
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Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days FREE TRIAL for full refund of purchase price.

We cannot accept orders totaling less than $1.00.

NAME & NUMBER OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

Please add 25c to total order for postage and handling.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

For COD orders please send 50c good will deposit. Pay postman the balance on delivery plus COD and handling charges.

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New York State residents add appropriate sales tax.

MY FEATHERED FRIEND SWOOPED IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK--
CLOSER, BABY, CLOSER...
?!
MY ARMS...LEGS MY ENTIRE BODY SEEMS TO BE LIGHTER... I'M... FLOATING DOWN!... TO GET THE EAGLE'S FLYING POWERS, I HAD TO MAKE IT COME NEAR ME!
THEN I SPOTTED THEM--THE TWO CHARACTERS WHO THOUGHT THEY'D "DONE ME IN"! AND I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO..
THE BOBBSIE TWINS...HEADING BACK FOR THEIR DEVICE IN THE LITTLE TIN BOX! NOW'S MY CHANCE TO NAIL THEM...
I GOT THEM IN MY SIGHTS...USED A LITTLE LEFT RUDDER AND...
RIGHT ON TARGET-- BULL'S-EYE!
OKAY, BOYS-- NOW IT'S MY TURN!

THEN I LET 'EM HAVE IT-- EVERY ANIMAL POWER AT MY COMMAND...
HERE'S A FISTFUL OF GORILLA KNUCKLES, PAL-- HAVE THEM ON THE HOUSE!

EVER GET KICKED BY A KANGAROO? THE OTHER ALIEN GOT THE MESSAGE...
OH BOY..I CAN KEEP THIS UP ALL DAY...

THAT WAS MY MISTAKE--OVER-CONFIDENCE! THE BLAST CAME FROM OUT OF NOWHERE...

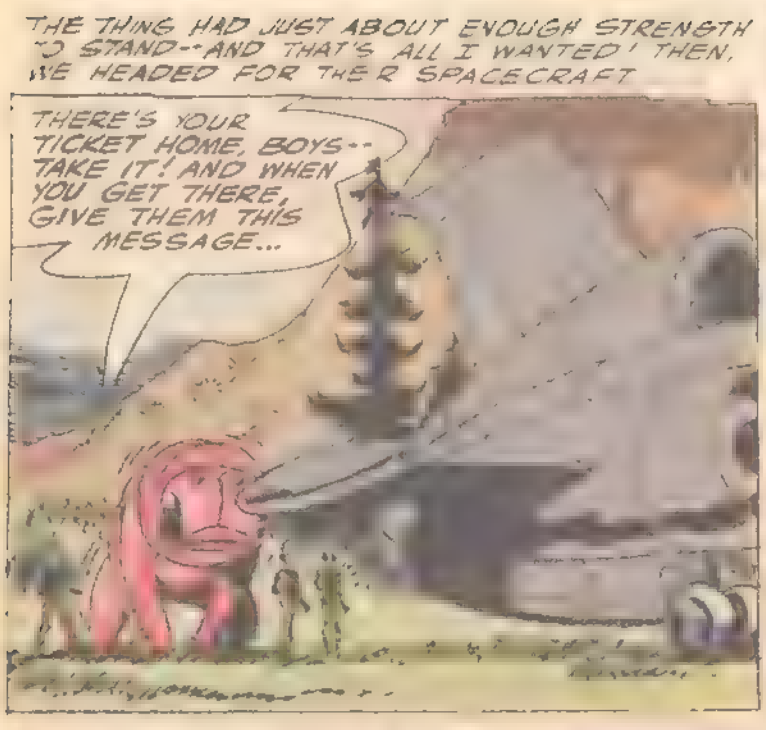
DOWN I WENT--DOWN...DOWN...
WOW! THAT DID IT! ONLY MY CAT-LIKE AGILITY SAVED ME NOW! BUT I'M A SITTING DUCK DOWN HERE, AND IF I TRIED TO JUMP OR FLY OUT-- THEY'D BLAST ME TO KINGDOM COME!

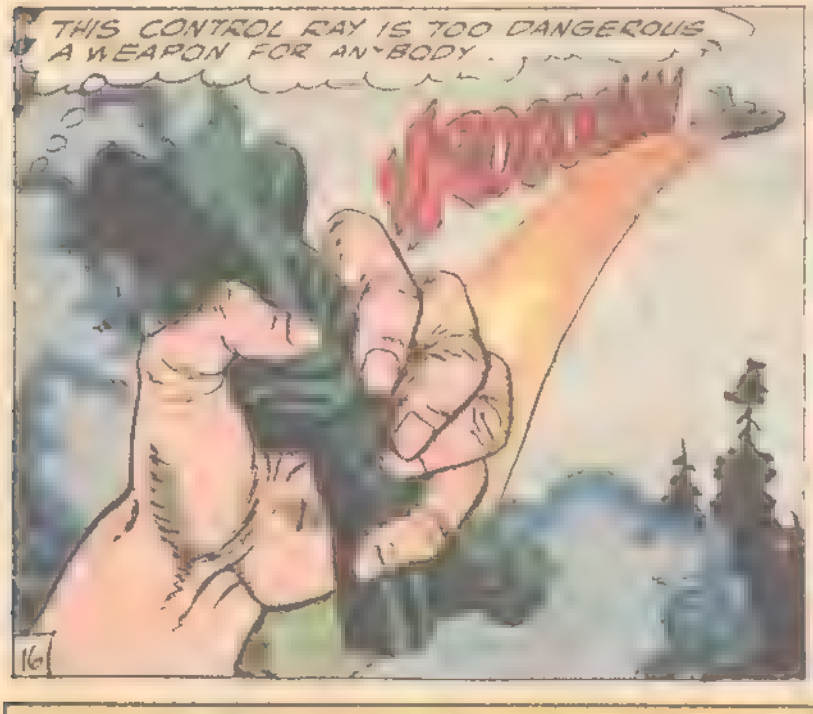
THEN MY EYE CAUGHT IT-- THE GLINT OF THE SUN OFF THE STRANGE METAL BOX...
THE BOX...THE DEVICE IN THE BOX... THEY MENTIONED IT WAS A WEAPON OF SOME KIND...AN IMPROVEMENT ON THE HATE RAY... IT'S A CHANCE...MY ONLY ONE...

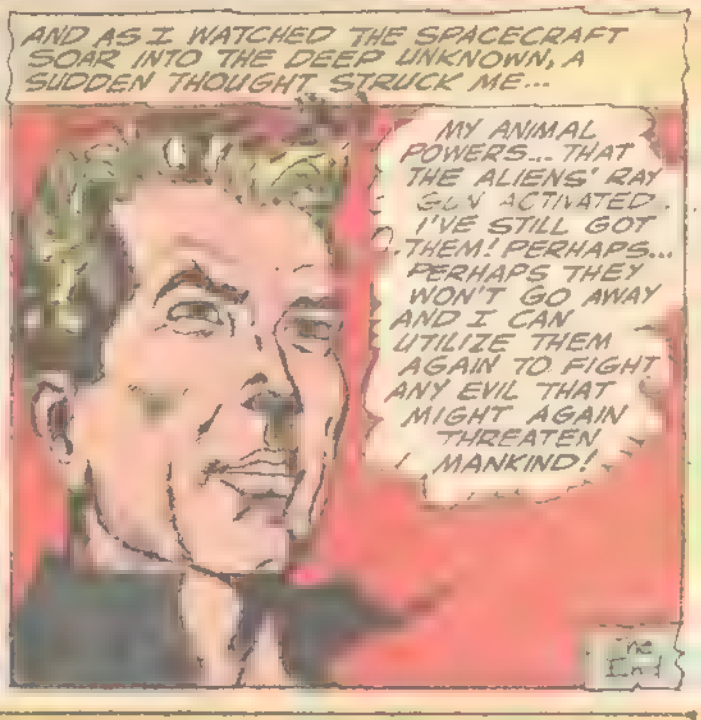
AND I LEAPED INTO THE BOX-- IT FELL UPON A STRANGE OBJECT-- I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS...
DISINTEGRATE HIM -- HE'S INTERFERED ENOUGH!
A CRAZY GADGET OF SOME KIND... WITH A BUTTON... JUST PUSH AND PRAY, I GUESS...
AND THAT'S WHAT I DID IN THE NICK OF TIME!
THE RAY I SHOT... FROZE THEM BOTH ON THE SPOT! THEY'RE UNDER SOME KIND OF HYPNOTIC SPELL! I THINK...
DROP YOUR WEAPONS! OBEY MY EVERY COMMAND!
YES MASTER
YES, MASTER
A PERFECTION OF THE HATE RAY-- A BEAM THAT BENT ANYONE TO THE WILL OF THE OWNER! NO WONDER THEY PLANNED ON TAKING OVER PLANETS-- AND I HAD IT IN MY HANDS...
OKAY, BOYS-- NOW WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE TRIP BACK TO THE VILLAGE! YOU BOTH HAVE SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS THERE! I'LL FIND YOUR PET LATER..
AS YOU SAY, MASTER.
AND SO, OFF I MARCHED THEM-- BACK TO TOWN WHERE...
IT'S OKAY, SHERIFF-- I'VE GOT THESE TWO CHARACTERS UNDER CONTROL! DID YOU GET THE FOLKS INTO INDIVIDUAL CELLS?
HAD A NASTY JOB OF IT, BUDDY-- BUT MY DEPUTIES AND I MANAGED! WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN MIND?

MY "PALS" HERE TELL ME THEY CAN NEUTRALIZE THE HATE RAY WITH A SPECIAL BLAST! THOUGHT WE'D GIVE IT A TRY...
ANYTHING'S WORTH A TRY IF WE CAN BRING THOSE PEOPLE AROUND! LET'S HOPE IT WORKS..
MOMENTS LATER, I LET THE ALIENS DO THEIR WORK AND..
EH..? WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING? I-I FEEL MIGHTY STRANGE...
IT'S WORKING--THEY'RE SNAPPING OUT OF IT!
NOW LET'S POP THESE TWO CHARACTERS INTO THEIR SPACECRAFT WITH THEIR BEAST AND MAKE SURE THEY BLAST OFF!
MY BOYS AND I WILL GO ALONG WITH YOU JUST IN CASE THERE'S TROUBLE!
AND THERE WAS--FOR, JUST AS WE EXITED...
G-GREAT DAY! THEIR BEAST...IN TOWN AND IT'S GONE BERSERK!
A RAY BLAST FROM THE CONTROL GADGET SHOULD CALM HIM DOWN, SHERIFF!
I TOOK CAREFUL AIM--FIRED...BUT..
B-BUDDY, IT DIDN'T AFFECT THE BEAST!
I GUESS THE GADGET WORKS STRICTLY ON HIGHER-FORM BEINGS! WELL, I'VE STILL GOT MY ANIMAL POWERS TO PLAY WITH... AND I'D BETTER GET GOING!

THINK I'LL BORROW THIS BLANKET... IT MAY COME IN HANDY!
THEN I HIT THE AIR--LIKE A TIGER...
THE FIRST THING TO DO IS "BLIND" THE BEAST... THEN HE'LL BE AT MY MERCY... I HOPE!
THAT DOES IT! NOW TO PUT THIS CREATURE INTO HIGH GEAR...
AND AWAY WE WENT--TWO TONS THUNDERING DOWN MAIN STREET--AND I HAD OUR DIRECTION PLANNED WELL IN ADVANCE...
SORRY TO DO THIS TO YOU, PAL... BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'RE ON THE WRONG PLANET.
THE CONTACT WAS MADE SECONDS LATER--AND WHAT A CONTACT...
IF THAT DOESN'T PUT YOU INTO SLUMBERLAND... NOTHING WILL.
CRASH


THE THING HAD JUST ABOUT ENOUGH STRENGTH TO STAND--AND THAT'S ALL I WANTED! THEN, WE HEADED FOR THEIR SPACECRAFT
THERE'S YOUR TICKET HOME, BOYS--TAKE IT! AND WHEN YOU GET THERE, GIVE THEM THIS MESSAGE...




AND AS I WATCHED THE SPACECRAFT SOAR INTO THE DEEP UNKNOWN, A SUDDEN THOUGHT STRUCK ME...
MY ANIMAL POWERS... THAT THE ALIENS' RAY GUN ACTIVATED. I'VE STILL GOT THEM! PERHAPS... PERHAPS THEY WON'T GO AWAY AND I CAN UTILIZE THEM AGAIN TO FIGHT ANY EVIL THAT MIGHT AGAIN THREATEN MANKIND!
The End

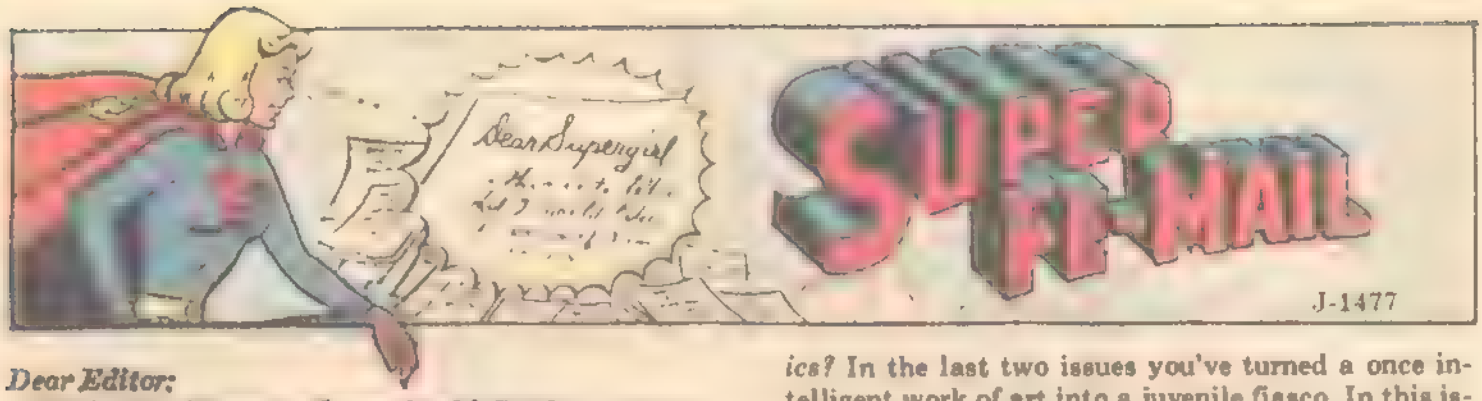
Coming in the next STAR-STUDDED issue of...

★★★ Adventure Comics ★★★

SUPERBOY BATTLES "The SPACE PIRATES" and the "DEATH'S-HEAD IN THE SKY"

ZATANNA Stars in "KILL OR BE KILLED!"

PLUS... ANOTHER ANIMAL-MAN THRILLER.



Dear Editor:

Well, Bob Oksner, welcome back! Good to see you doing your usual great work! (Gee, if *Supergirl's* hair were just a little lighter, she'd be the image of *Angel O'Day!* Sigh . . .)

It is equally good to see that Jack Kirby hasn't some hold over Vince Colletta. His way with the artist's ebony is much too good and too distinctive to be limited to Joltin' Jack.

The first story, "Nature of the Beast," wasn't bad, though I wonder why John Albano wrote "The End" on page 14? I mean, the *Birdmen* are still after *Mystery Mike*, and *Supergirl* will be, too, since he knows her secret ID, and is a known thief and murderer besides. "To Be Continued" would have been much more appropriate.

As for the cover story, it was pretty good, but why, oh, why did you resort to the Big Bad Baboon Becomes Berserk Bit? It didn't contribute anything to the plot, and it could just as easily have been something more subtle (like an earthquake).

The reprint was all right, but no more. It would be nice if you could get away from the super-heroine oriented stories and bring back some of the more classic tales (like the story where the *Legion* finally foiled the *Time Trapper*, which I missed).

And, oh yeah, a hip-hip-horray for John Sposato's delightful design for a *Supergirl* costume.

Karl Merris, San Diego, Calif.

(As you doubtless know by now, the Legion *reprints will henceforth be confined to the pages of* Superboy *and the* Super-Spectaculars. *Glad you recalled* Angel and the Ape. *That was a creation of Publisher Carmine Infantino, Editor Joe Orlando and yours truly . . . with Bob's art. We have fond memories of* Angel O'Day *and* Sam Simeon, *too.*—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Dear Editor:

When I bought issue 410, it encouraged me to buy more to collect them.

Supergirl's new fashion is very attractive. It shows that Mr. Sposato knows what he's doing.

In the last story in the issue, *Judy* made a big impression on me. In the future, I hope you'll print more comics with *Supergirl* and *Judy* together.

As for the *Legion* story, the only *Super-Heroes* in it that I had even heard of were *Supergirl* and *Superboy*, but it was great.

Billie Collins, Westbury, R.I.

(Ah! It's nice to read a letter from a reader who liked everything. Now we turn to someone who apparently liked nothing—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Dear Joe & E.N.B.:

My God! What have you done to *Adventure Comics?* In the last two issues you've turned a once intelligent work of art into a juvenile fiasco. In this issue's two *Supergirl* stories, you have a complete lack of a strong plot,and they were too far out to be believable. I suggest you put your feet back on the ground.

You especially went overboard in the second story, in having a giant gorilla crashing through a wall. Yet you give no prior explanation of this mammoth ape, and *Supergirl*, upon seeing him, acts so matter-of-factly. If, indeed, one could find such a large gorilla, the simian's fame should be world-wide and everyone would be excited.

While the art was just above average and passable, I still miss good, ol' Mike Sekowsky.

By the way, if you reread the *Legion of Super-Heroes* story, you might find page 2 of the first chapter where page 2 of the second chapter was supposed to be, and vice-versa.

Dan Gheno, Santa Barbara, Calif.

(What do you mean, we might *find the pages switched? That's exactly what anyone who reads the mag will find—and several of you readers* did *find it and mentioned it. It seems someone in production—or printing—made the goof and it got by our editorial eagle-eyes when they checked the proofs. We humbly apologize!*—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Dear Editor:

What is this about *Supergirl's* "on and off" powers? I know it was in issue #404, but where I live, the stores don't always carry *Adventure Comics*. I got #408 and it mentioned her problem and said to see #404. Please help me figure it out.

Wendy Hutchinson, Toronto, Ont.

(A scientist came up with what he thought was a pill to wipe out all super-powers, and a no-goodnik slipped it to Supergirl. *However, it only switched off her powers temporarily from time to time.*—E.N.B.*)*

*****

Dear Editor:

In #409, you said that *Supergirl* did not need sleep as long as she had her super-powers. #410 had her sleeping. Now, can you explain that?

Andre Plemmer, Tarboro, N.C.

(She doesn't need *sleep when she has her powers—but she* can *sleep. And if she doesn't have rest, it could weaken her more when her powers switch off.*—E.N.B.*)*

Send all comments on this issue to SUPER FE-MAIL, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

IN A VAIN ATTEMPT TO CONQUER THE PLANET EARTH, A TYRANT FROM ANOTHER GALAXY FIRST EMPLOYED HIS LITTLE STEPDAUGHTER (NAMED JUDY) TO DESTROY SUPERGIRL--- BUT THE CHILD AND THE MIGHTY MAID OF STEEL BECAME FAST FRIENDS. LATER, THE TYRANT HIMSELF WAS DESTROYED. SINCE THAT TIME, JUDY HAS BEEN HAPPILY LIVING WITH SUPERGIRL...

SUPERGIRL in The KIDNAPPING!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER LINDA (SUPERGIRL) DANVERS CASUALLY STROLLS TOWARDS HER APARTMENT--COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE FATE THAT IS ABOUT TO BEFALL HER LITTLE FRIEND AT THAT VERY MOMENT...

MIFF!

SCRIPT: JOHN ALBANO
ART: BOB OKSNER

I HOPE JUDY LIKES THIS NEW DRESS I BOUGHT HER...

C'MON, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!

YOO HOO! JUDY, HONEY! WHERE ARE YOU?

SECONDS LATER... LINDA FINDS A NOTE...
YOUR YOUNG FRIEND HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED... DO NOT NOTIFY POLICE OR ATTEMPT TO TRACK ME YOURSELF! WAIT FOR PHONE CALL.
P.S. I KNOW YOU ARE SUPERGIRL!
JUDY...KIDNAPPED! AND THE ABDUCTOR KNOWS MY TRUE IDENTITY!
BUT HOW?
MY COSTUME! THE KIDNAPPER MUST HAVE BEEN BURGLARIZING THE APARTMENT AND DISCOVERED MY SUPERGIRL COSTUME...
JUDY WAS PROBABLY TAKING HER AFTERNOON NAP WHEN SHE WAS ABDUCTED!
YOUR YOUNG FRIEND HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED... DO NOT NOTIFY POLICE OR ATTEMPT TO
FOR THE NEXT TWO HOURS, SUPERGIRL WAITS IN AGONIZING SUSPENSE FOR THE KIDNAPPER'S PHONE CALL .. FINALLY, IT COMES...
YES...YES, THIS IS LINDA-- I MEAN-- SUPERGIRL-- IS JUDY--
JUDY'S OKAY, SISTER! BUT IF YOU EVER EXPECT TO SEE THE LITTLE BRAT ALIVE AGAIN, YOU'LL DO EXACTLY AS I SAY!
NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY.
?? YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT?
YOU HEARD ME, MISS LAW AND ORDER - FIRST I WANT YOU TO KNOCK OVER A BANK... THEN A JEWELRY STORE...
OH, YEAH, I WANT A MINK COAT FOR MY GIRL FRIEND, TOO...
FEARING FOR THE SAFETY OF LITTLE JUDY, SUPERGIRL HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO OBEY THE KIDNAPPER'S GREEDY DEMANDS... THUS, DONNING A DISGUISE, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST FEMALE BEGINS PERFORMING TASKS THAT MASTER CRIMINALS WOULD FIND IMPOSSIBLE TO EQUAL!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D EVER USE MY SUPER-POWERS TO STEAL LIKE THIS...
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
GEMS
WHEW! I AM I GLAD THAT THIS COAT COMPLETES THE LIST!
THANK GOODNESS MY SPEED MAKES ME INVISIBLE TO THAT POLICEMAN!
FURS

AND JUST AS SUPERGIRL ARRIVES BACK AT HER APARTMENT..
THE PHONE IS RINGING! THAT KIDNAPPER MUST REALLY BE ANXIOUS FOR HIS LOOT!
OH--IT IS YOU, GEOFF!...
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU AT HOME, LINDA, BUT WE JUST RECEIVED NEWS OF ANOTHER SPACESHIP SIGHTING... WE'LL WANT TO GET PICTURES IF THE REPORT PROVES TRUE, SO WOULD YOU MIND COMING DOWN TO THE OFFICE AND STANDING BY?
NO! I CAN'T LEAVE HERE NOW, GEOFF--UH--I MEAN--I'M NOT FEELING TOO WELL...
OH! WELL, OKAY, KID. HOPE YOU FEEL BETTER SOON. CIAO!
GOSH, I HATED TO LIE LIKE THAT TO GEOFF, BUT--
HELLO?... YES, THIS IS SHE SPEAKING...
--AND THIS IS YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD KIDNAPPER SPEAKING FROM THIS END, MISS MUSCLES! I PRESUME YOU'VE ALREADY ACQUIRED THE GOODIES I ORDERED, SO HERE'S WHERE I WANT YOU TO DELIVER THEM...
MINUTES LATER--SUPERGIRL FOLLOWS THE INSTRUCTIONS OF JUDY'S ABDUCTOR...
--HE WANTS ME TO DROP EVERYTHING I STOLE FOR HIM IN THOSE BUSHES BEHIND THAT PHONE BOOTH DOWN THERE...
...AND HE PROMISED TO LEAVE PROOF THAT JUDY IS STILL ALIVE BY LEAVING A PHOTOGRAPH HE TOOK OF HER...

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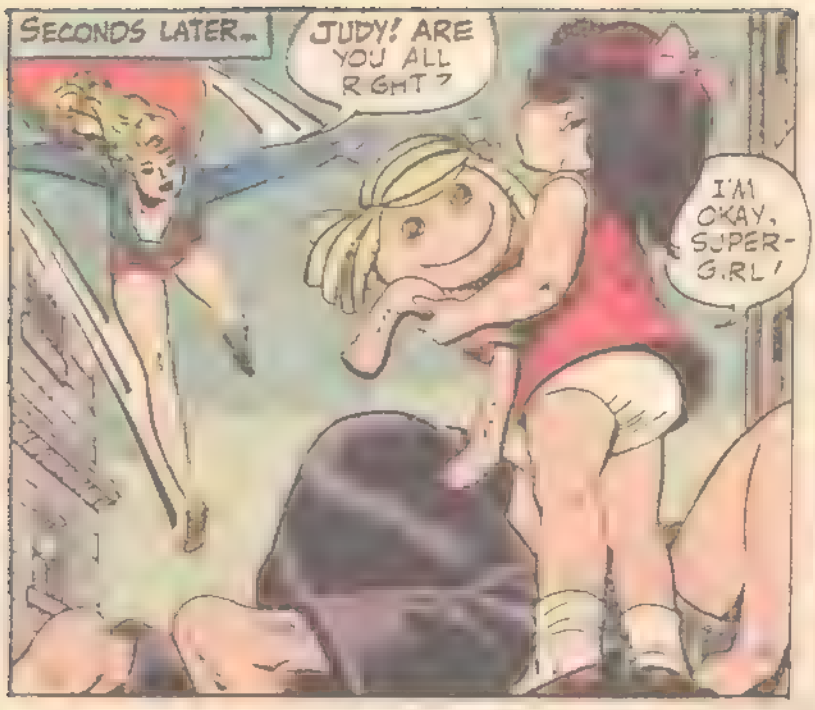
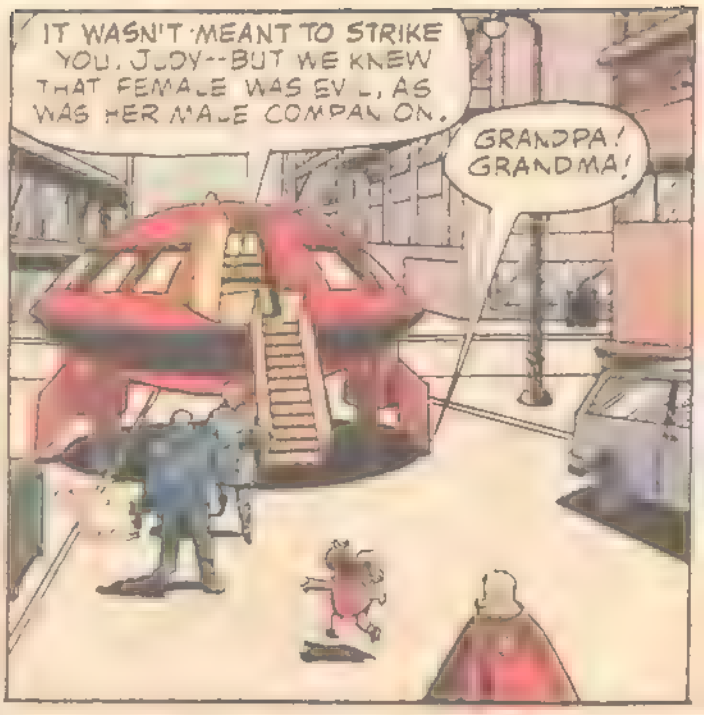
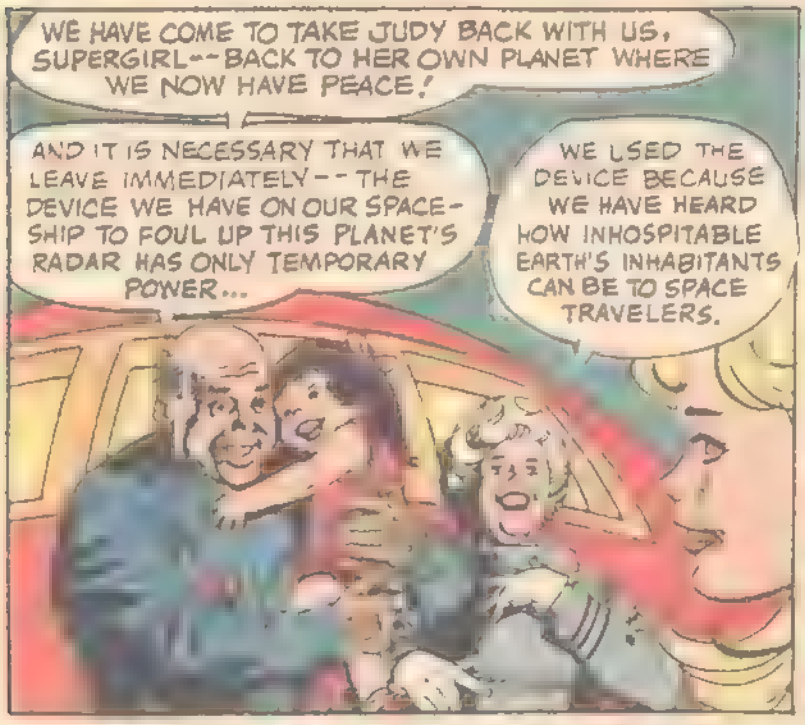
QUICKLY DEPOSITING THE MONEY, JEWELS AND FUR COAT IN THE DESIGNATED SPOT, SUPERGIRL SEARCHES FOR THE PROMISED PHOTOGRAPH...
AH! HERE IT IS! THE KIDNAPPER HAD IT TAPED TO THE BASE OF THE TELEPHONE...
IT'S A PICTURE OF JUDY SITTING ON A CHAIR NEXT TO A TABLE...
HMM! THOSE BOOK MATCHES LYING ON THE TABLE-- THERE'RE SOME NUMBERS SCRIBBLED IN PENC.. INSIDE THE COVER...
BY USING HER SUPER-VISION, THE MAID OF STEEL IS EASILY ABLE TO READ THE TINY NUMERALS...
...IT'S A TELEPHONE NUMBER! THIS MAY BE THE BREAK I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!
NOW I'LL USE MY SUPER SPEED TO CHECK EVERY NUMBER IN THE DIRECTORY UNTIL--GOT IT! MARGARET WALTERS-- 33 CEDAR LANE...
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY
I JUST PRAY I'M FINALLY ON TO SOMETHING!..
SOON...
JUDY! THANK GOD SHE'S UNHARMED!
THIS MUST BE THE APARTMENT OF THE KIDNAPPER'S GIRL FRIEND--EVIDENTLY HE'S GOT A BAD MEMORY--THAT'S WHY HE HAD HER NUMBER WRITTEN ON THOSE MATCHES-- THEN HE EVEN FORGOT AND LEFT THEM ON HER TABLE...

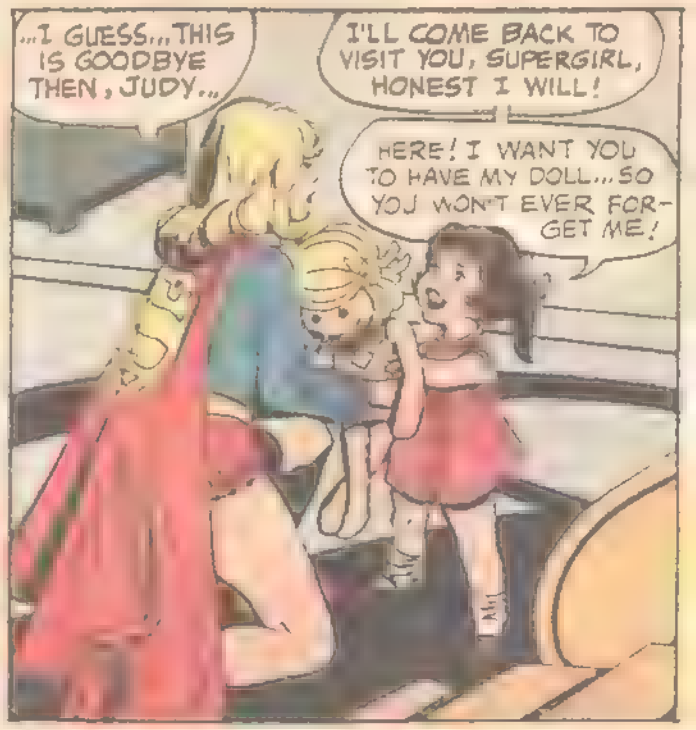
HER LONG HOURS OF TORTUROUS HELPLESSNESS NOW ENDED, SUPERGIRL ATTACKS WITH A VENGEANCE..
HEY, WHA--
SUPER-GIRL!
GO AHEAD YOU WITCH-- GRAB FOR THAT PISTOL-- I'M ACH'NG FOR A CHANCE TO TAKE YOU APART!
?
NO--W-WAIT, SUPERGIRL-- KIDNAPP'NG THE KID WASN'T MY IDEA--HONEST...
BUT YOU WERE WILLING TO KEEP JUDY TIED UP AND GUARD HER, WEREN'T YOU?
NOW GET BUSY UNTYING THE CHILD--THEN GET YOUR COAT ON, BECAUSE I'M TURNING YOU OVER TO THE POLICE!
YOU TELL HER, WILL 'YA, HONEY? I WASN'T MEAN TO YOU, WAS I?
YOU'RE AFRAID SUPERGIRL IS GO'NG TO BEAT YOU UP, AREN'T YOU?
FOOTSTEPS... SOMEONE IS COMING..
WITH LIGHTN'NG SPEED, THE M GHTY SUPERGIRL REPLACES THE DOOR ON ITS HINGES, THEN SILENTLY WAITS... SOON...
IT'S ME, BABY.

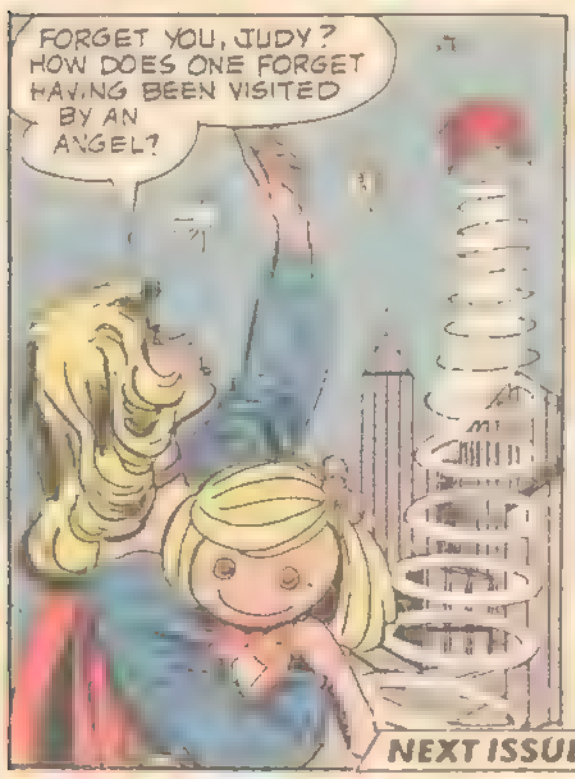
I GOT THE--
???
SUPERGIRL!
THAT'S RIGHT, MISTER--ONLY I'M SURPRISED TO SEE YOU WALK IN THAT DOOR...I ALWAYS THOUGHT SNAKES CRAWLED ON THEIR BELLIES...
LL F YOU, YOU SMART TALKING--
AAARG!
?
WHAT IN HEAVEN'S NAME WAS THAT?
EVIDENTLY SOMEONE SAW THE KIDNAPPER THREATEN ME WITH THAT GUN AND--
--??? JUDY?..
WHERE--
A BACK DOOR! THE KIDNAPPER'S GIRL FRIEND ESCAPED AND TOOK JUDY ALONG AS A HOSTAGE!
BUT AS SUPERGIRL PREPARES TO PURSUE THE FLEEING WOMAN--
AAARRG!
GREAT SCOTT!...
THAT SAME RED RAY--

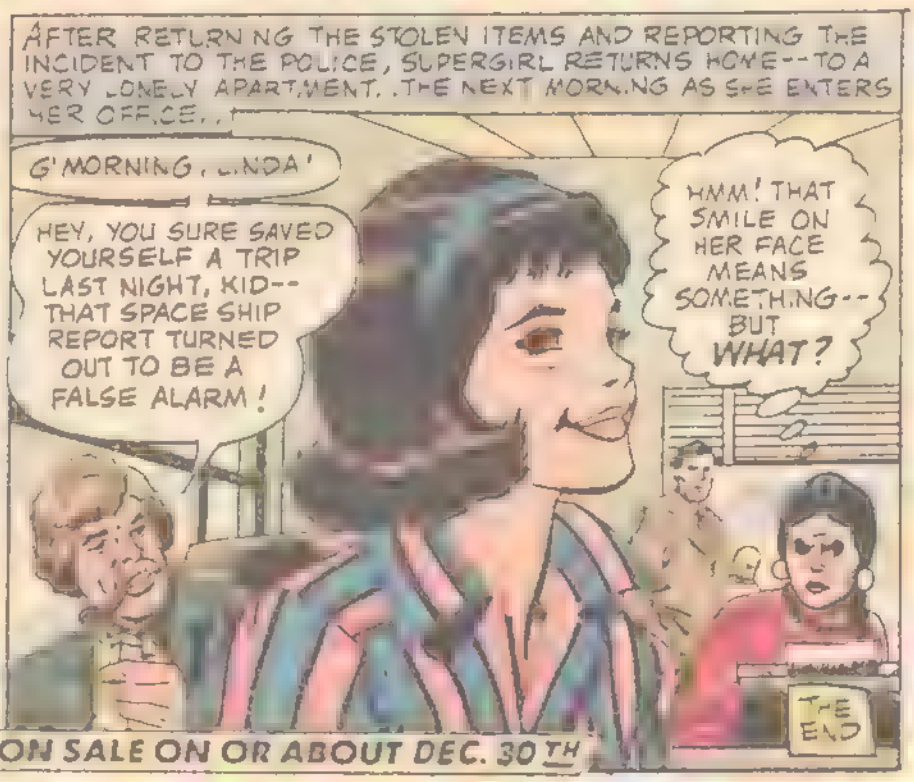





WE HAVE COME TO TAKE JUDY BACK WITH US, SUPERGIRL--BACK TO HER OWN PLANET WHERE WE NOW HAVE PEACE!
AND IT IS NECESSARY THAT WE LEAVE IMMEDIATELY--THE DEVICE WE HAVE ON OUR SPACE-SHIP TO FOUL UP THIS PLANET'S RADAR HAS ONLY TEMPORARY POWER...
WE USED THE DEVICE BECAUSE WE HAVE HEARD HOW INHOSPITABLE EARTH'S INHABITANTS CAN BE TO SPACE TRAVELERS.


...I GUESS...THIS IS GOODBYE THEN, JUDY...
I'LL COME BACK TO VISIT YOU, SUPERGIRL, HONEST I WILL!
HERE! I WANT YOU TO HAVE MY DOLL...SO YOU WON'T EVER FORGET ME!




AFTER RETURNING THE STOLEN ITEMS AND REPORTING THE INCIDENT TO THE POLICE, SUPERGIRL RETURNS HOME--TO A VERY LONELY APARTMENT. THE NEXT MORNING AS SHE ENTERS HER OFFICE...
G'MORNING, LINDA!
HEY, YOU SURE SAVED YOURSELF A TRIP LAST NIGHT, KID--THAT SPACE SHIP REPORT TURNED OUT TO BE A FALSE ALARM!
HMM! THAT SMILE ON HER FACE MEANS SOMETHING--BUT WHAT?
THE END

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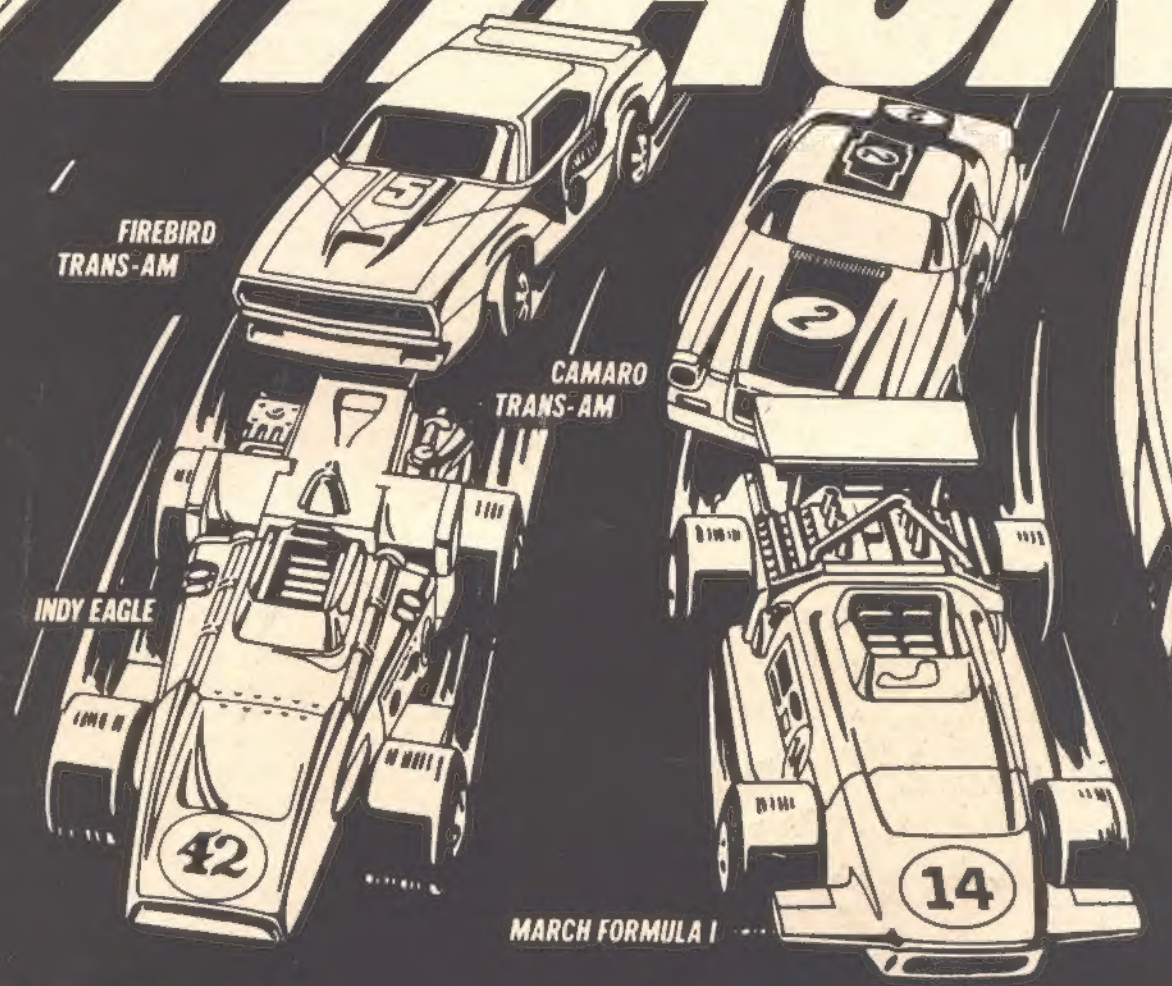

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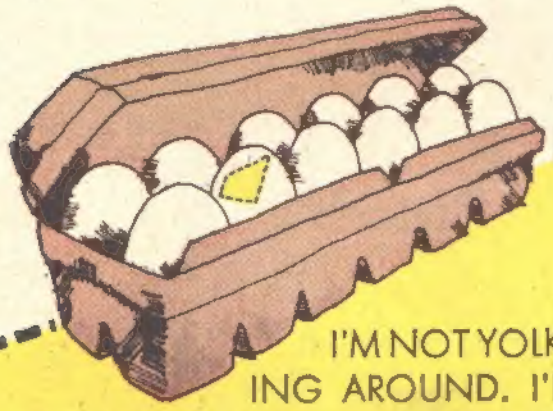

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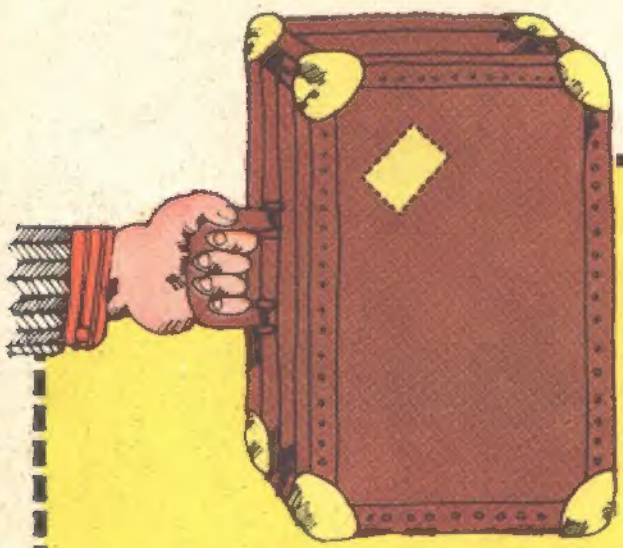

TO BE BRIEF, AN A|FX RACING SET IS WHAT I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS.

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